

WHAT IS THE NEW YORK HEALTH ACT (SINGLE-PAYER BILL) ?

The New York Health Act (NYHA) would create a single-payer system with the goal of providing universal healthcare for all New York residents. Currently, in our state, individual healthcare companies make it ever more costly to obtain the treatments we need. This bill gives us the freedom to choose our providers and covers all medically necessary care. In addition to making sure that New Yorkers are healthy, the New York Health Act is a sound economic policy that will lessen the financial burdens of healthcare facing many New Yorkers today. Despite being a smart policy, NYHA has yet to become law since Assembly Member Dick Gottfried first proposed it in 1992, and it needs your help!

A single-payer health care system provides everyone in New York with guaranteed healthcare at a lower cost by eliminating the middleman, the insurance companies, which look to make a profit.

To learn more or if you have any questions, contact Senator Robert Jackson!

You can also visit www.nyhcampaign.org to learn more about the New York Health Act and what you can do to help.

To find out who your elected representatives are, visit www.mygovnyc.org.

Sources for this pamphlet include:

New York Health Campaign

Physicians for a National Health Program,
New York Metro Chapter

RAND Corporation

Full links are listed on Senator Jackson's website:
jackson.nysenate.gov.



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Information from
Senator
Robert Jackson



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SAVINGS

- New York Health (NYH) will have net savings of \$11.4 Billion by eliminating insurance company profits, reducing administrative costs, and reducing prescription drug costs.
- New Yorkers under this plan will no longer have to pay any copay or out of pocket costs.

FUNDING

- NYH relies on taxes (depending on income), federal and state funding and other funds.
- Employers are required to pay at least 80% of the tax on payroll under NYHA, but a larger part can be negotiated. Self-employed residents must pay the entirety of their insurance premium, just as they do now.

BENEFITS

- Unlike many large insurance companies, NYHA allows New Yorkers to choose any provider from all participating providers.
- NYH covers all medically necessary treatments, including medical, prescription, vision, dental, hearing, long-term care and support services, mental health and substance abuse treatment; and reproductive care.
- All New York residents will be automatically added to NYH and factors such as health, financial or employment status will not affect the quality of care.
- Long-term services and supports are covered. About \$31 billion in home care services (usually by a family member) go unpaid in New York. These services would now be accessible and replaced by paid home care.

FLAWS IN THE CURRENT HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

- Nationwide, there are an average of 45,000 annual deaths as a result of a lack of health insurance
- Over 1 million New Yorkers lack health insurance
- 45% of Americans have difficulty paying for their medical expenses
- 1 in 6 insured Americans have been affected by surprise bills after staying in a hospital when they are sick.
- It is estimated that American doctors spend four times as much as Canadian doctors in dealing with insurance companies
- Administrative costs comprise a larger share of American healthcare spending in the United States than any other high-income countries (including France, Germany and the UK)
- Even countries whose health care is considered private (such as Germany and the Netherlands) would be considered a government-run program by the Congressional Budget Office

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO PRIVATE INSURANCE COMPANY EMPLOYEES?

- The bill has set aside money in its funds to support the transition of former employees. Many employees will also start working in the new system.
- After two years, only 1% of workers would be without work.
- Since employers will no longer have to buy private insurance for their employees, they will have the resources and time to invest in their business and hire more employees.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE BILL RIGHT NOW?

- Currently in the Senate, Gustavo Rivera and many of his cosponsors—including Senator Jackson!—are working hard to get the bill to pass the Legislature.
- However, many Senate Republicans have kept the NYHA from moving further.
- Now that the first legislative session under Democratic leadership is over, the NYHA needs to be front and center.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Vote! Legislators at the state and national levels are working hard to pass a single-payer system.
- Sign the Petition! The more people who sign, the closer we come to passing the bill: https://www.nyhcampaign.org/ny_health_act_now
- Contact your local legislators! Write or call to tell them that you support the NYHA or Single-Payer Bill, and that they should too. Again, your voice matters!
- Share your healthcare stories! Your stories raise awareness on how the current healthcare system is failing us, and why we need a new one that covers all of us, equally.

