



MEDICARE FOR ALL FACT SHEET

Our health care system fails to provide quality care to every U.S. resident and wastes hundreds of billions of dollars a year in unnecessary administrative costs. A Medicare for All single-payer system — supported by UE since 1943 — would expand and improve the cost-effective and administratively efficient Medicare program to finance comprehensive, high-quality health care for everybody in the U.S.

Our Current System is Ineffective, Inefficient, and Expensive

- Roughly 30 million Americans are uninsured, and an additional 41 million adults are underinsured.
- In a recent poll, 20 percent of insured Americans reported having trouble paying their medical bills.
- The United States spends twice as much on health care as other major industrialized countries.
- Despite outsized spending on health care, the U.S. experiences extremely poor health outcomes.
- 33 percent of U.S. adults go without recommended care, do not see a doctor when sick, or fail to fill a prescription because of costs. Only 7–8 percent of people in the U.K., Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden experience these problems.
- In 2014, 68 percent of Americans over the age of 65 were living with two or more chronic conditions, compared to only 33 percent in the United Kingdom.

Medicare for All is Popular, Achievable and Affordable

- Support for Medicare for All (Reuters poll, 7/2018)

70% All Americans

84.5% Democrats

52% Republicans

- A study conducted by the Mercatus Center, a conservative think tank, concluded that the U.S. would save \$2 trillion over a ten year period by guaranteeing health care for everyone with Medicare.
- Medicare for All would require new taxes, but they would replace premiums, co-pays, and deductibles. 95% of Americans will pay less than they do now. A family of four making \$50,000 per year would save an estimated \$5,000 under Senator Bernie Sanders' plan.

How It Works »

- A single-payer system would expand the existing Medicare program to cover everyone in the United States and improve the program by eliminating out-of-pocket expenses.
- Patients would have their choice of health care providers.
- All medically necessary services would be covered.

How It's Financed »

- Replacing premiums, deductibles, and co-pays with a modest increase in the Medicare payroll tax on individuals and employers.
- Increasing taxes on the wealthy.
- Savings from eliminating health insurance industry profits and negotiating drug prices.

How It Would Affect Your Union Contract »

- No more employer demands for healthcare givebacks.
- Employers' savings can be redirected to wage increases or improvements to other benefits.

For more information visit www.ueunion.org/medicareforall



United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America
4 Smithfield Street, 9th Floor | Pittsburgh, PA 15222
www.ueunion.org | 412 471 8919