

Colorado Health Care Reform

Improved Coverage & Cost Savings of *Single Payer Insurance**

Single Payer Health Insurance – The only health care reform capable of halting the multiple cost-shifts due to fragmented, administratively wasteful commercial multi-payer health insurances. Single Payer – ‘public payer, private provider’ – replaces more than 20 percent overhead costs of profit-centered health insurance with 5 percent overhead for quality-centered health coverage. It is the only transparent, accountable, sustainable and truly universal health care, capable of providing true choice of doctors/providers and hospitals.

Colorado Health Services Single Payer Proposal

- The only proposal evaluated by the **Lewin Group** in 2007 demonstrating both reduced state health costs – **\$1.4 billion** – and comprehensive health coverage for all Colorado residents.

Single Payer Cost Savings to the people of Colorado (over \$4 billion):

Health cost savings to businesses **\$2.34 billion**

- Freed from the cost of providing employee health insurance, businesses compete on equal footing in the global marketplace.
- Employees have higher effective take-home wages.
- Consumers save added costs of goods and services due to business costs of health plans (e.g. over \$1500 added cost of a US-made car).

Health cost savings to Colorado families **\$187 million**

- Families pay less in a progressive tax than current costs of premiums, copays and deductibles for commercial health insurance.

Cost savings to providers (26%) **\$669 million**

- Eliminates providers’ cost of extra office help to handle different paperwork of multiple private insurers – preauthorization / credentialing requirements; changing drug formularies, etc.
- Eliminates insurance middlemen in ‘Denial Management’ hired to deny or renege on reimbursements, at additional \$20 billion annual cost. Reportedly 30 percent of doctors’ claims are denied the first time, requiring repeat appeals. (*Wall Street Journal* 2-14-07)

Cost savings to hospitals (9.8%) **\$322 million**

- Hospitals will no longer experience unpaid medical bills due to uninsured/underinsured, costs passed to consumers and taxpayers.

Savings - Prescription Drugs/Durable Medical Goods \$322 million

- Only the CHS proposal permits bulk purchase of drugs/equipment.

*Cost savings from Lewin Group 2007 evaluation of CHS Single Payer Proposal

More Info: www.HealthCareforAllColorado.org

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