

# What is Single Payer Health Care?

With approximately 1500 separate health insurance companies marketing approximately 27,000 different plans, health care providers must bill each plan that covers their patients. Added to the costs of billing is the overhead of the health insurance companies. Together, these cost patients an extra \$400 billion dollars every year. If instead, health care payment processing were done through an expanded Medicare, a low overhead, well managed, existing, 44 year old payment processing system, the "Single Payer", the \$400 billion could be redirected to provide full health care for the approximately 47 million currently without health care. Every resident, then, would have full health care coverage. A bill proposing just that, The United States National Health Care Act, H.R. 676, will come to the full House for vote as the Weiner Amendment to HR 3200.

## **H.R. 676 Benefits: PAYS 100% FOR ALL MEDICALLY NECESSARY CARE**

- Primary care
- Specialty care
- Prescription drugs
- Long term care
- Mental health services
- Full scope of dental services
- Substance abuse treatment services
- Basic vision care and vision correction
- Hearing services including coverage of hearing aids
- Podiatric (Foot) care
- Inpatient/Outpatient Hospital care
- Emergency care
- Durable medical equipment
- Palliative care
- Chiropractic services
- Prevention programs

## **Other Features**

- Freedom of choice – choose any provider /medical facility
- Only you and your doctor decide what care you receive –no middleman
- No deductibles, co-pays or other cost sharing for lifetime
- No preexisting condition exclusions, no Medicare Part D doughnut hole
- Available anywhere in the US and territories, covers every resident and visitor
- Benefits are not tied to employment, hence, no loss of coverage when changing jobs or unemployed
- Doctors remain in private practice and are paid fairly
- Establishes an independent board of medical professionals, institutional providers, health care advocacy groups, citizen patient advocates, labor unions, to oversee the system

## **Cost** (Total program cost is slightly less than we now spend nationally for health care)

- Family of four with \$56,200 income: About \$2,700/year (4.75% of gross income)
- Employer contribution equals employee contribution
- Self employed: Progressive, up to 4.75% of gross maximum
- Unemployed: Publicly funded for duration

**To request more detailed information or to make a comment e-mail: [cosy@diacad.com](mailto:cosy@diacad.com) or visit our website : [www.nh.pnhp.org](http://www.nh.pnhp.org) and use the e-mail link or write to GSPNHP, PO Box 95, Rumney, NH 03266. Paid for by the Granite State Chapter, Physicians For A National Health Program, Marcosa (Cosy) Santiago MD, Chair.**