



Health Care is a **Human Right**



WELCOME

We know you agree that now is the time to act and create a health care system that allows all of us access to quality, affordable health care. A campaign is underway that endeavors to create a health system that is guided by human rights principles. It's a provision of the Affordable Care Act and would transform our health care system as we know it.

Welcome to our March Health Care is a Human Right newsletter! Every month, we will keep you up to date on the progress of the campaign.

In this issue you will learn about:

- Intent to Cover All legislation: What happened?
- There's a new addition to the Activist Toolkit
- The News Center brings you the latest headlines

House Bill 1321

Although the legislature failed to bring HB 1321 to the floor for a vote, thereby killing the bill for the 2016 legislative session, there are many successes we can celebrate.

The bill passed, 8 to 7, out of the Health Care and Wellness committee, an advance in the process from the previous year when the bill was introduced and received a hearing. Rep. Marcus Riccelli commented before the committee moved to executive session he had been hearing from his constituents about this bill, and that was motivation for his "yes" vote to send the bill out of the committee; proof that grassroots effort is working to advance the intent to cover all Washingtonians.

What's next? The bill is in a holding pattern in the Rules Committee until the next session. Let's encourage our elected officials to continue fighting for health care that covers every Washington resident. It will take a concerted effort from all stakeholders!



The Tools You Need

If you haven't had the chance to look at the Health Care is a Human Right website, there's a new addition to the [Activist Toolkit](#). A new documentary shows why a simplified single-payer health care system is THE solution for lower costs and better health outcomes for everyone in our country. Watch the 2-minute trailer for [We Can Fix It](#).

News Center

How Liberals Tried to Kill the Dream of Single-Payer *New Republic*

Around the time that the insurgent campaign of Bernie Sanders hit its stride, a chorus of liberal pundits and economists began to coalesce around a decidedly grim message for the 60 million people in America who remain either uninsured or underinsured: Give up on your pipe dream. Single-payer, Paul Krugman wrote in one of a series of posts in January, "isn't a political possibility," and is in fact "just a distraction from the real issues." Last week in the American Prospect, sociologist Paul Starr went further in describing single-payer as a "hopeless crusade for a proposal that will go down to defeat again, as it has every time it has come up before."

[Read more](#)

Why business should favor a single-payer plan *Gettysburg Times*

If I were in business, I would favor a single-payer health plan. Instead of paying private insurance companies monthly premiums for healthcare coverage, each individual and business would pay the government through modest taxes. The government would negotiate healthcare services and costs for all of its citizens and pay providers directly for their services. Your business would no longer be responsible for the health care of your employees. Your business would pay a 10 percent payroll tax on your payroll directly to the government, and the health care of your employees would be provided by participating doctors and hospitals. So let's look at what a single-payer system could do for you, your business, and your bottom line.

[Read more](#)

Clinton And Sanders Clash Over Path To Universal Health Care *Think Progress*

As the leading Republican presidential candidates are busy offering incoherent plans that would repeal Obamacare and make the insurance landscape more confusing — Donald Trump, for instance, put out a 40-word health care platform that makes very little sense — the Democratic candidates are having a substantive debate about how to make universal health care a reality. Hillary Clinton is reaffirming her support for a policy that's popular among proponents of a single-payer insurance system — offering a counter to Bernie Sanders' health care plan that may be more well-received among liberal voters than her previous platform. The positioning reflects the Democratic base's appetite for creating a path to universal health care, a far-left

stance those Sanders has staked out for himself this race.

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