

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM



MYTH VS. THE FACTS

MYTH
#1

GOVERNMENT
SPONSORED EUTHANASIA
OR "DEATH PANELS"

ABSOLUTELY FALSE. This outrageous myth is a distortion of a program that provides Seniors with the option of receiving help preparing a living will, establishing medical power of attorney, and making other personal decisions about long term care. Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA), the conservative Republican Senator who authored a similar policy, said confusing this provision with a "death panel" or "euthanasia" is "nuts."

MYTH
#2

A "GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER" OF
HEALTH CARE

REFORM = MORE CHOICE. President Obama supports insurance reform that guarantees choice. If you have insurance, and you like your doctor and plan, you can keep them. If you don't have insurance, a public option would increase competition and keep insurance companies honest, ensuring you more affordable choices. No one will get in-between you and your doctor. Your local doctor, clinic and hospitals will remain independent.

MYTH
#3

CUTS TO MEDICARE BENEFITS

REFORM = NO MEDICARE CUTS & BETTER MEDICARE SERVICES. Under the President's plan, seniors will not lose any of their existing benefits. Reform will end overpayments to insurance companies, eliminate hundreds of billions of dollars of waste and fraud and lower prescription drug costs —improving care for seniors.

MYTH
#4

FEDERAL FUNDING
OF ABORTION

CURRENT LAW WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED. None of the bills being considered would fund abortion. Health insurance reform would not change current prohibitions against federal funding for abortions.

MYTH
#5

LONG LINES & RATIONING
OF HEALTH CARE

REFORM = ENDING UNFAIR INSURANCE COMPANY POLICIES. Under the status quo insurance companies ration care to maximize profit. They can decide what doctors you can see and what treatments you can receive. Reform will end rationing by establishing insurance guarantees that prohibit companies from denying coverage based on a pre-existing condition, charging exorbitant fees, retroactively canceling coverage when you get sick, capping the amount of coverage you can receive and discriminating on the basis of gender.

MYTH
#6

UNDOCUMENTED
IMMIGRANTS ARE COVERED

UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS WILL NOT BE INCLUDED in health insurance reform. President Obama understands that our immigration system is broken and needs to be fixed. That's why he supports and is working towards comprehensive immigration reform.

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