SINGLE PAYER MYTH BUSTER

THE MYTH

“Healthcare automatically becomes a constitutional right in the U.S.”

THE FACT

No. Passing the bill does not automatically make healthcare a constitutional right. National Improved Medicare for All (bill H.R. 3069 in the United States House of Representatives) protects people from the costs of healthcare. It does not directly say that healthcare is a human right. But it does bring the United States closer to its duty to protect everyone’s right to health.

WHAT THE BILL SAYS

People often ask if National Improved Medicare for All will make healthcare a “human right” in the U.S. Here is what the bill says, and what it leaves out.

1. **It is about the costs of healthcare.** The bill only talks about giving people full protection against the costs of healthcare and health-related services.
2. **It does not point to the Constitution.** The bill does not refer to the Constitution’s duty to “promote the general welfare.”
3. **It does not name healthcare a human right.** The bill never says this directly.
4. **Nothing becomes a right automatically.** Passing the bill does not, by itself, make healthcare a constitutional right.

WHAT CHANGES UNDER NATIONAL IMPROVED MEDICARE FOR ALL

- ✓ **The U.S. takes on a bigger duty.** The bill would make the U.S. take on a higher level of responsibility to everyone who lives here.
- ✓ **The U.S. gets closer to keeping its promises.** The U.S. has signed international agreements, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- ✓ **The U.S. moves closer to the human right to health.** The bill brings the country closer to its duty to respect, protect, and fulfill that right.

THE BOTTOM LINE

No, healthcare does not automatically become a constitutional right. But the bill protects people from the costs of healthcare and moves the U.S. closer to honoring the human right to health.

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Questions, comments, or ready to get involved: email us.