SINGLE PAYER MYTH BUSTER

THE MYTH

"We will lose even more primary care and family medicine doctors."

THE FACT

National Improved Medicare for All will bring primary care doctors back, not drive them away. Today's system buries family doctors in insurance paperwork, pays less for their kind of care, and pushes them to burn out or sell their practices to corporations. The bill (H.R. 3069 in the United States House of Representatives) removes those burdens, so more medical students choose primary care and more doctors stay.

WHY WE ARE LOSING DOCTORS

Today's system turns medical students away from primary care and wears doctors down. Here is how.

1. **Paperwork eats up their day.** Most doctors spend hours on insurance forms, asking insurers for permission to treat patients, and defending their decisions to insurance company staff.
2. **Their work is valued less.** Today's system pays more for surgery and high-tech scans than for the time a family doctor spends managing long-term illness or giving advice on healthy eating.
3. **Local practices get bought up.** Independent primary care doctors cannot afford the cost of billing many different insurance companies, so big hospital corporations buy their practices.
4. **Patients cannot afford to come in.** People skip checkups and go without medicine for diabetes or high blood pressure, then land in the hospital with problems that could have been prevented.

WHAT H.R. 3069 WILL DO

- ✓ **End insurer permission slips.** Doctors no longer need an insurance company's approval to treat you.
- ✓ **Cut the paperwork.** One program, one national price list, and one electronic billing system bring billing fights down to nearly zero.
- ✓ **Give doctors their time back.** Time once lost to billing goes to patients. This eases the burnout and distress that push doctors to retire early.
- ✓ **Pay primary care fairly.** National budgets let the federal government raise pay for primary care doctors, so more new doctors will choose primary care.
- ✓ **Keep local practices independent.** One source of payment sharply cuts office costs, so primary care doctors can serve their communities without selling to corporations.
- ✓ **End what you pay for care.** No copays or deductibles, so you can see your doctor before a small problem grows.
- ✓ **Put prevention first.** Moves healthcare from emergency rescue to lifelong care that keeps people well.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Today's system is what drives primary care doctors away. National Improved Medicare for All fixes the reasons they leave: less paperwork, fairer pay, stronger local practices, and practicing what they were trained for.

CONTACT US

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