

WHAT'S IN HEALTH CARE REFORM FOR ME?

CWA Separates Truth from Lies

There is an organized campaign to spread lies about health care reform. The insurance industry and other special interests are trying to derail reform by making false and misleading claims. Don't be fooled. CWA is working with the Obama Administration and the key Committees in Congress that are drafting health care legislation. One bill that we support, H.R. 3200, will soon be voted on by the House of Representatives. Another bill that CWA supports has passed the Senate HELP committee. Below are the typical questions CWA members have about the legislation and answers to them:

Will I lose my employer health plan?	NO. CWA members will keep their negotiated health plans. CWA will negotiate benefits as we always have. Insurance companies will have to provide a comprehensive standard benefits package for all policies, which could actually improve the benefits offered by some CWA plans.
Will reform result in a government takeover of health care?	NO. Most Americans will keep their current employer plan. Only small businesses and individuals with no employer coverage will be able to choose between a private insurance plan and a public insurance plan. Only about 10 million Americans will be covered under the new public plan. Currently, 160 million Americans are covered by their employers.
Will I get taxed to pay for other people's health care?	NO – Unless our opponents win. We have already blocked proposals to tax individual workers' health care benefits. Some in Congress want to tax our employer health plans. But we can defeat them if CWA members get active in reforming the health care system.
Will reform reduce health care costs for CWA members?	YES. It will save billions of dollars for our employers. That means more money at bargaining for wage increases or benefits. Reform will require most employers (not small businesses) to pay for health care, which levels the playing field between union employers and irresponsible employers.
Will reform benefit retirees?	YES. Reform will expand protections for retirees. Responsible employers who provide retiree care to people 55 to 64 will get a subsidy to protect pre-Medicare retiree benefits.
Will I lose my choice of doctor?	NO. Your choices will remain the same. CWA negotiated health plans will not change except through bargaining. If a family member or friend is uninsured they will get covered and have more affordable choices.
Will reform stop insurance company abuses?	YES. Insurance companies will no longer be able to refuse to cover a preexisting condition or charge more because of your occupation, health condition or gender. They will have to compete against a public health insurance plan that will be available only to uninsured individuals and workers at small businesses. More competition for insurance companies means lower costs and better quality for all of us.

Call Your Member of Congress NOW: 1-888-580-0792
Tell them to support Health Care Reform!

