

How health reform will help you!

A quick guide to health reform



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Health reForm will help Americans immediately!

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the current health reform legislation passed by the Senate, has some great provisions that go into effect this year!

- Providing small business and non-profits with tax credits toward purchasing health insurance for employees within six months of passage.
- Eliminating pre-existing condition exclusions for children.
- Banning health insurance companies from rescinding or revoking existing health insurance when a person gets sick.
- Establishes a temporary high-risk health insurance pool for people who have pre-existing conditions.
- Extending coverage for children to remain on their parents' insurance until age 26.
- Reducing the Part D "donut hole," or coverage gap, by \$500.

If you are an Illinois resident, health reForm will help you!

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the current health reform legislation passed by the Senate, will help Illinoisans by:

- Giving over 2 million Illinois consumers access to more affordable health insurance through the insurance exchange.
- Providing 1 million Illinois consumers with premium tax credits to make coverage more affordable.
- Providing 1.8 million Illinois seniors free preventative health services.
- Providing a small business tax credit to 144,000 small businesses in Illinois.
- Providing 50% discounted name-brand prescription drugs to the 314,000 seniors in Illinois who fall into the Part D doughnut hole.

If you have health insurance, health reform will help you!

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the current health reform legislation passed by the Senate, will help individuals and families with insurance by:

- Banning health insurance companies from rescinding or revoking existing health insurance when a person gets sick.
- Eliminating annual and lifetime limits on the amount of coverage an individual may receive.
- Prohibiting discriminatory practices of charging higher prices based on age, gender, and health status.
- Requiring health insurance companies to spend 80 – 85% of all premium dollars on actual health care costs and providing consumer rebates for excessive costs spent on administrative fees and profit.
- Requiring health insurance companies to adopt and implement uniform standards and rules for exchanges of information to reduce paperwork and administrative costs.

IF you are uninsured, health reform will help you!

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the current health reform legislation passed by the Senate, will help the uninsured by:

- Immediately banning health insurance companies from excluding children from coverage based on pre-existing conditions.
- Extending coverage for children to remain on their parent's insurance until age 26 within six months of passage.
- Expanding Medicaid coverage to families up to 133% of the poverty level (\$14,412 annual for an individual; \$24,360 annual for a family of 3).
- Making health insurance more affordable by providing health care tax-credits, based on income, to help people afford health insurance.
- Establishing a health insurance exchange as a new venue for people to comparison shop for standardized health insurance.
- Gives consumers access to same health insurance that Congress uses.

IF you are a small business owner or worker, health reForm will help you!

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the current health reform legislation passed by the Senate, will help business and workers by:

- Providing small business and non-profits with tax credits toward purchasing health insurance for employees within six months of passage.
- Requiring employers with 50 or more employees to offer health insurance coverage, or else pay a fine.
- Limiting and reducing waiting periods for new employee health coverage benefits.
- Establishing a program to assist small businesses in finding affordable health insurance coverage.

If you have Medicare, health reform will help you!

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the health reform legislation passed by the Senate, will help Medicare beneficiaries by:

- Reducing the Part D "donut hole," or coverage gap, by \$500 immediately.
- Providing a 50% discount on name-brand drugs while a beneficiary is in the donut hole.
- Providing a free annual wellness visit for all Medicare beneficiaries.
- Eliminating cost-sharing (co-pays) for preventative services.
- Increases outreach and enrollment assistance for the Medicare Part D low-income subsidy program.

Take Action Today!

Your members of Congress still need to hear from you and need to hear that we want the health reform bill to move forward! Contact Congress and tell them to move forward on health reform today!

Calling your Senator or Representative in Congress is easy!

When you call your elected official, you will not actually speak to the Senator or Representative, you will simply leave a message with a staff person. You will be asked to leave your name and most likely an address or phone number. Then you can leave your message and let your voice be heard!

Senator Dick Durbin:

(202) 224-2152 – Washington
(217) 492-4062 – Springfield

Senator Roland Burris:

(202) 224-2854 – Washington
(217) 492-5089 – Springfield

Representative Tim Johnson:

(202) 225-2371 – Washington
(217) 403-4690 – Champaign

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi:

(202) 225-0100 – Washington

Sample Script:

"I am calling today to urge _____ to support health care reform and move forward with the legislative process. I believe health reform must include strong health insurance regulations, guarantee access to care, and make health care affordable for consumers. Thank you."