

7/22 - newsletter deadline

WHEREAS the 50,000-member American Library Association in 1990 adopted a "Library Services for the Poor" policy which enjoins A.L.A. and the library profession to promote "implementation of...national health insurance" as a means of reducing poverty; and

WHEREAS Rep. Marty Russo and Sen. Paul Wellstone have introduced legislation to establish a system of single-payer, Canadian-style national health insurance which has already been supported by the American Public Health Association, ^{Children's} ~~Defense~~ ^{Fund,} Consumer Federation of America, Consumers Union, National Association of Social Workers, National Council of Senior Citizens, Physicians for a National Health Program, and many unions, including AFSCME and the ILGWU;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association endorses H.R. 1300 and S. 2320, the Universal Health Care Act; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to Rep. Russo, Sen. Wellstone, and the library press.

to membership

—Moved by Sanford Berman
MSRRT

6-27-92

It's The Only *Real* Cure For The Nation's Ills

"If the U.S. were to shift to a system of universal coverage and a single payer, as in Canada, the savings in administrative costs would be more than enough to offset the expense of universal coverage."

— from the U.S. General Accounting Office report to Congress (GAD/HRD-91-90) June 1991

The Universal Health Care Act — H.R. 1300 borrows from the proven principles of Canada's successful program to come up with a uniquely American solution.

- Comprehensive benefits for all Americans
- Single, publicly administered social insurance program
- Progressive and equitable financing
- Cost containment
- Elimination of administrative waste
- Quality reform

"If the U.S. placed explicit controls on the growth of health expenditures, it could extend health insurance coverage to all of the uninsured and save approximately \$1.0 – 4.3 trillion dollars (in real terms) over a ten years period. The business sector as a whole would also save substantially... much of the savings to business would be passed along to workers and consumers."

— from the Economic and Social Research Institute report "A National Health Plan in the U.S." funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

H.R. 1300 Supporters

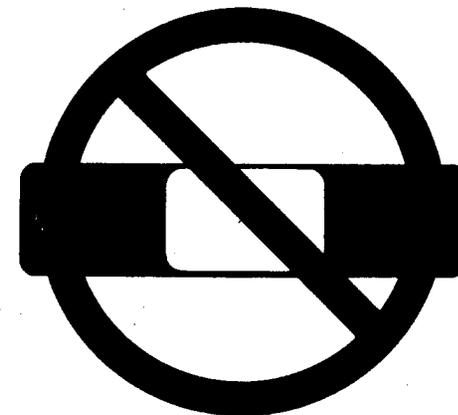
H.R. 1300, introduced by Rep. Marty Russo (D, IL) has co-sponsors from 19 states, more than any other health reform bill in Congress. Numerous organizations support H.R. 1300. These include:

Actors Equity	International Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers
Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union	National Association of Social Workers
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees	National Council of Senior Citizens
American Medical Student Association	Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union
American Postal Workers Union	Physicians for a National Health Program
American Public Health Association	Screen Actors Guild
Citizen Action	Transport Workers Union of America
Communications Workers of America	United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America
Consumer Federation of America	United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America
Consumers Union	United Mine Workers of America
Families USA	
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers	
International Ladies' Garment Workers Union	

What You Can Do:

- Join a local Jobs With Justice coalition or state health care campaign.
- Write, call, or visit your Members of Congress.
- Pass the word along to your co-workers.
- Urge your employer to support national health insurance.

NO MORE BANDAIDS



*Now Is The Time
For Real Solutions:*

National Health Insurance

Support The
Universal Health Care Act Of 1991

H.R. 1300

REP. MARTY RUSSO

The Real Problem

The U.S. spends more money on health care to cover fewer people than any country in the world. Billions of dollars are wasted, millions of people are left out or priced out, and each year it gets worse.

How Bad Is It?

- The U.S. spends \$2 billion a day on health care, yet 37 million people are uninsured.
- The U.S. wastes more money on health insurance bureaucracy than it would cost to provide health care to the uninsured and end all co-insurance and deductibles for all Americans.
- In 1965, 9% of corporate profits went toward health care; today 100% of after-tax profits go for health care.
- Families now pay 12% of their income on health care. By the year 2000 they'll pay 16% if nothing is done.
- Private health insurance no longer covers the total cost of health care despite annual premium increases of 10% to 20%.
- Only 40% of the poor actually receive Medicaid, and Medicare covers only 1/2 of the elderly's health care costs.
- A shocking 25% of health expenditures go toward wasteful and inappropriate procedures.
- If no changes are made to our system, total health spending could reach \$1.5 trillion by the year 2000, consuming such a large portion of our GNP that the entire economy will suffer.

The Real Victims

Workers: Two-thirds of the uninsured are working people whose jobs provide no benefits and who do not qualify for public insurance. Currently, a worker earning the minimum wage would have to pay 34 to 50% of his or her income for a basic insurance policy for a family of four.

As costs rise, union members are fighting to protect what they have. Health care was the primary issue for 78% of striking workers in 1989. Rising costs have also cost workers potential wage gains.

Children: Over 9 million children have no health coverage at all and millions more can't get basic preventive care because their parents' insurance is inadequate.

Seniors: Medicare covers less than 1/2 of the elderly's health care costs, and many living on fixed incomes are hurting. Medicare cost-sharing is increasing yet benefits such as prescription drugs and long-term care aren't covered, and employer-paid retiree coverage is under attack.

Business: Employers' health care costs are out of control, rising at almost 20% a year. Small businesses are hurt the hardest, with rates 20-40% higher than their larger counterparts. Competition from foreign countries and from employers who don't provide insurance hurts businesses, and jobs are lost.



The Real Solution

Medicare and Medicaid, reforms won in the 1960's, expanded health care to many people. But in recent years attempts to contain costs have merely shifted costs and increased paperwork rather than solve the crisis. Partial solutions only make things worse. **No more band-aids** — Now is the time for real solutions.

Meaningful reform must provide universal access, cost containment, freedom of choice of health care providers, elimination of administrative waste, fair financing and long-term care.

H.R. 1300 Is National Health Insurance:

- **It's Simple** — there's one program for everyone that covers all necessary care and services. There's no paperwork hassles for business, patients, doctors and hospitals.
- **It Guarantees Freedom to Choose Doctors and Hospitals** — No insurance company or employer can tell you which doctor to see when you're sick.
- **It Controls Health Care Costs** — by putting the entire system on a budget and setting limits on overall spending. Hospital budgets and doctors fees are subject to annual negotiations.
- **It Eliminates Waste** — thousands of private insurance company policies are replaced with a public insurance system.
- **It's Fair** — the money now paid in premiums, out-of-pocket costs, taxes, and from business is replaced by a combination of corporate, payroll and income taxes. There are no out-of-pocket costs. Ninety-five percent of all Americans will pay less than they pay now.

WE CAN END OUR HEALTH CARE CRISIS.

Health care costs continue to skyrocket. Employers try to take back health care benefits from union contracts. More and more Americans go without any health insurance at all. It's a crisis that is spiraling out of control.

As UAW President Owen Bieber told the House Ways and Means Committee: "Nothing short of total reform will remotely begin to provide an effective solution to the complex and interrelated problems of escalating costs, declining access, and questionable quality."

H.R. 1300, the Universal Health Care Bill sponsored by Rep. Marty Russo (D-Ill.) would provide comprehensive benefits for all Americans; a single, publicly-administered social insurance program; progressive, equitable financing; cost containment; elimination of administrative waste; and quality reform. A companion bill, S. 2320, has been introduced by Sen. Paul Wellstone (D-Minn.).

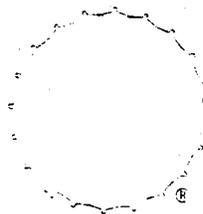
But some members of Congress are now promoting a Band-Aid instead of a real cure. Their "solution," known as "small market" insurance reforms, is designed only to make it easier for some small businesses to purchase health insurance coverage. That won't guarantee universal access to health care. It won't stop escalating health care costs. In fact, "small market" insurance reforms could increase costs for other businesses and individuals.

Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 and ask for your Representative and Senators. Tell them that the UAW strongly opposes this phony "small market" insurance scheme and that now is the time for Congress to pass *real*, comprehensive national health care reform legislation.



UAW President Owen Bieber, the Reverend Jesse Jackson, and UAW Region 6 Director Bruce Lee urged a fight for national health care legislation at a rally for jobs and health care April 12 in Southern California.

TAKE THE CURE. National Health Insurance Now!



*****5-DIGIT 55416
ANN ARBOR MI 48106
49282
49282
SANTANA PERMAN
4900 MEMPHIS MI 38104
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55416

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

SOLIDARITY
8000 E. Jefferson Ave.
Detroit, MI 48214