

WHY DOESN'T "HEALTH CARE FOR ALL NC" ENDORSE A SPECIFIC HEALTH FINANCING PLAN?

Health Care for All NC does not believe that our non-profit organization is the appropriate vehicle to develop and finalize a health financing plan for our state. Rather our role is to educate and advocate for a process to achieve a truly universal system so that all health care needs are met for the residents of our state.

The plan should be developed with maximum input from health care consumers, health care providers, employers and the public health experts who already exist in our great state. The relevant legislative commissions in our General Assembly should guide discussion and drafting of the plan, as these are responsible to the people of NC.

Everyone in our state deserves health care as a right. The yardstick by which all specific plans and proposals are compared and evaluated must be whether the plan allows access to health care that is appropriate, of the highest quality and affordable to all North Carolinians. Furthermore, the plan should be financially stable with an efficient use of public funds, so that needs can be met for our foreseeable future.



Any plan proposed prematurely will immediately become the focal point for disagreement and dissension over a multitude of financial, medical and administrative details. It will be impossible to reach a consensus on any plan without commitment in advance to the guiding principle of a right to health care.

There are several possible ways everyone can be covered, as there exist several different models among other industrialized countries, some with populations and economies near those of North Carolina. There already have been taxpayer-funded studies by the Lewin Group in 1994 in NC and in many other states of the financial implications of universal coverage. These have also shown that there are various feasible, cost-effective alternatives, some which would actually save our state money.

THEREFORE: We propose, that our state should commit to the principle of the "Right to Health Care" first and then develop a specific plan to cover the health care needs of our state population.



Health Care for All I

A 501(c)(3), non-profit, membership organization
educating and advocating for the right to health care
for all North Carolinians