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The Public Option Won’t Be an Option

Here are some facts about the proposed “public option.” First, it was so contentious that Democrats refused to include it in the Affordable Care Act. Second, it’s a government-run program like Medicaid. Third, claims that you can “buy” into it are moot. It’s taxpayer funded. Fourth, claims that it would still allow private insurance are true, but deceptive.

After people start leaving private insurance for a subsidized, taxpayer-funded “public option” program, private insurance will disappear. In 2001, California progressives considered the public option to be “a voluntary transition toward single-payer.” Thus, a public option is the slow-lane to Medicaid for All. Eventually, the public option won’t be an option.


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