



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

Health Freedom Minute

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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.

“Why Not a Private Option?” AAPS News, August 2019: <https://bit.ly/2KryH08>

“The Origins and Demise of The Public Option,” Helen A. Halpin and Peter Harbage, Health Affairs, Vol. 29, No. 6, June 2010: <https://bit.ly/2vGF87k>

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

*The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 47 states:
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