

THE MONEY AND OTHER RESOURCES USED FOR WAR COULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD PROVIDING HEALTH CARE FOR EVERYONE:

A. Cost of War in Iraq: The full cost of just the war in Iraq (2003-08) is \$3,000,000,000,000 (\$3 Trillion) according to Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel prize-winning economist.

46 million persons in the U.S. are uninsured

B. Current Cost of Health Care in the U.S. Health care costs have been rising for several years. Expenditures in the United States on health care surpassed \$2.2 Trillion in 2007, more than three times the \$714 billion spent in 1990, and over eight times the \$253 billion spent in 1980. (*Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of the Actuary, National Health Statistics Group, 2007 National Health Care Expenditures) Data, March 2009.*)

C. The Cost of Health Care for All: Under the National Health Care plan proposed by H.R. 676, a family of four making the median income of \$56,200 would pay about \$2700 in payroll tax for all

health care costs.

WE ALREADY HAVE GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED HEALTH CARE:

Old people, some poor people and veterans already have government supported health care through Medicare, Medicaid and various veterans benefits. These programs are, of course, far from perfect, but they are pretty good. While many seniors would like to see



Medicare reformed, it is rare to see senior citizens, or organizations of senior citizens call for abolishing Medicare.

Similarly, many veterans, some who served decades ago rely on veteran's hospitals for an important part of their health care. My father is a veteran who voices more than the occasional criticism of the US government, but I have never heard him say that he wishes veterans didn't get any health care or that the government should close the veterans hospitals. -- *"Fearing Government*

Involvement in Health Care, Lincoln Mitchell, Asst Prof. in the Practice of International Politics, Columbia University, 8/18/09, www.buffingtonpost.com/

Two thirds of all bankruptcies in America are caused by medical bills and three quarters of those are families with health insurance!. This is a total outrage! No other country in the world has this problem.... why do we?

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL:

Representative John Conyers Jr. (D-MI) has introduced "The United States National Health Care Act," Or "Expanded & Improved Medicare For All" .H.R. 676. **The bill currently has 93 cosponsors.**

The opponents of national health care, mostly those who are badly misinformed or paid agents of big corporations that are now making huge profits off of the current system by denying needed care to millions, will try to scare you by calling it "socialized medicine". But don't be fooled; nothing could be farther from the truth. In fact, the goal H.R. 676 is simply to create a fair and equitable single payer health care plan that all Americans can afford and benefit from while leaving most of the existing structure of practicing health care professionals and facilities completely alone. You choose your doctors, your hospitals and need no permission from anyone to go see them whenever necessary. No exclusions, no pre-existing conditions, no denied claims, just top rate, affordable, professional care for you and your family including prescription drugs, mental health AND dental services in addition to long term care,

whenever you need it.

For a full summary of H.R. 676, visit <http://conyers.house.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Home.Home> and click on <Issues> then <Healthcare>

Obama's Doctor Speaks Out for Single-Payer Healthcare Reform:

"I respectfully differ with [President Obama] on his approach to health care reform. I speak to you today as an advocate for the single-payer approach to health reform, an expanded and improved Medicare for all..."

-- David L. Scheiner, M.D., was personal family doctor to President Barack Obama for 22 years.

ACTIONS:

1. Become active in, and spread the word about, The Citizens Alliance for National Health Insurance www.HR676.org

2. Contact your representative and tell them you want them to cosponsor H.R. 676

Call the toll-free, Congressional Switchboard at 866-220-0044 and ask for your representative by name or tell the operator your zip code and s/he will connect you.

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HEALTH CARE NOT WARFARE

– This is true security –

Last July (2008), while attending a conference in Spain, I was involved in an accident resulting in extreme chest pain. An ambulance rushed me to a hospital where I underwent X-rays, blood work and an EKG, plus the gentle care of the medical staff. Thankfully, my injury was simply severe muscle contusion although it took several weeks for the pain to subside.

18,000 people die every year in the US because of no health insurance.

Despite the fact that I was a visitor, I was billed just \$100 (US) under Spain's health care system. I know that my costs for a similar experience in the U.S. would have been in the thousands of dollars, for which I would be responsible for a large co-payment. Were I not insured, I would bear the burden of an enormous debt..

I was a supporter of universal health care before, but now I'm convinced that this is the way to go. This is real security. Health care is a human right – *Fr. Bob Bossie, SCJ*