

John McCain Healthcare Plan

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Overall Plan:

Health Savings Accounts Elimination of a tax break that employees receive if their employer provides their health care. Federal govt would give you a tax break of 2,500 for individuals and 5,000 for families.

Provide Example.

100,000 a year. 9,000 in tax free health benefits.

Tax free exemption eliminated. Extra 3,000 in taxes on the 9,000 dollars.

Company would now pay you 109,000 minus the 3,000 =106,000. Federal Govt gives you the 5,000 and now you have 11,000 to pay the average 12,000/year for family health plan

Shrink government involvement in healthcare

Doesn't want to impose regulations on insurance companies

No guarantee that people would get insurance and no mandate that people get it.

Pre-Existing Conditions: Not in favor of mandating insurance companies to cover people with pre-existing conditions.

Suggested diverting Medicaid funds to help people with pre-existing.

And McCain would use federal funds to subsidize state high-risk pools covering those who have trouble buying insurance in the open market.

High Risk pools: Formation of Non-profit organization contracting with insurance companies to provide insurance at reasonable prices.

Perscription Drugs: Joined democrats in supporting legislation that would allow drugs to be purchased from Canada.

Urgent Care: Greater access to urgent care by promoting walk in clinics and retail outlets

Tort Reform: pass medical liability reform that eliminates lawsuits directed at doctors who follow best practice guidelines and adhere to safety protocols.

Other:

Supports federal funding of embryonic stem cell research on existing lines of stem cells.

Pros:

Lets individuals/families "shop around" for best insurance suitable to their needs, thus fostering competition among insurance companies and theoretically lowering costs.

Increases portability (if they lose/change jobs don't have to worry about losing insurance)

Will make it easier for the young and healthy to get insurance (cheaper) before they get "pre-existing conditions".

Cons:

Indigent and very poor patients. (does suggest increasing tax break for poor).

Elderly + Pre-existing conditions will see high premiums and less coverage(erosion of insurance mandates)
Insurance companies will start “cherry picking”