

Colorado Healthcare Coalition

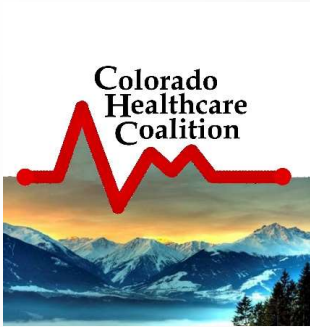
**Our broken healthcare system
and what we can do about it!**

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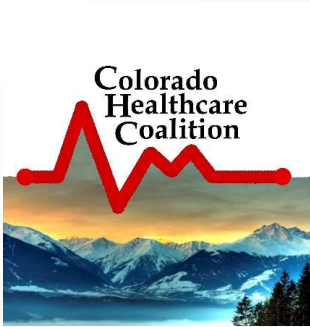
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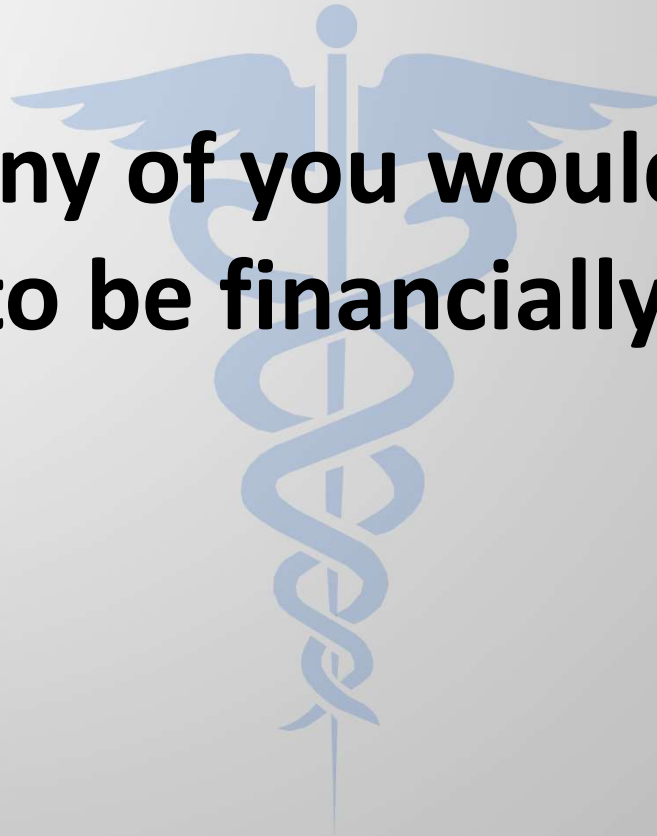
**Don't just accept what I say here.
Look it up!!**

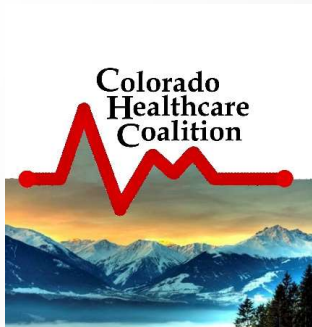




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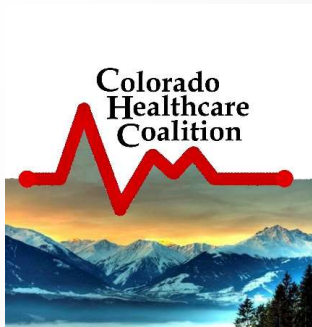
How many of you would consider yourselves to be financially responsible?





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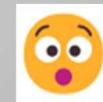
If you consider yourself to be financially responsible shouldn't you be outraged at the fact that we waste \$2 trillion (that's 2,000 billion dollars!) each year by spending twice as much per person for healthcare as other developed countries?

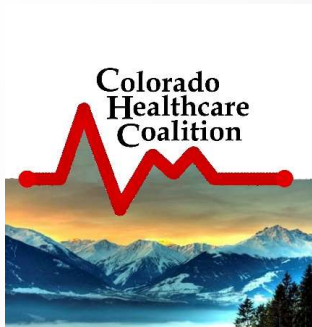


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If you consider yourself to be financially responsible shouldn't you be outraged at the fact that we waste \$2 trillion (that's 2,000 billion dollars!) each year by spending twice as much per person for healthcare as other developed countries?

And we don't get better healthcare.

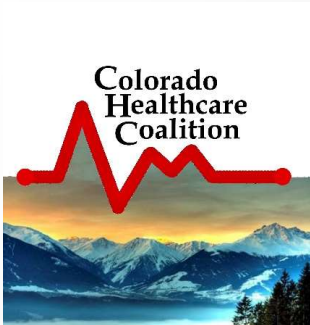




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Problems with our current healthcare system:

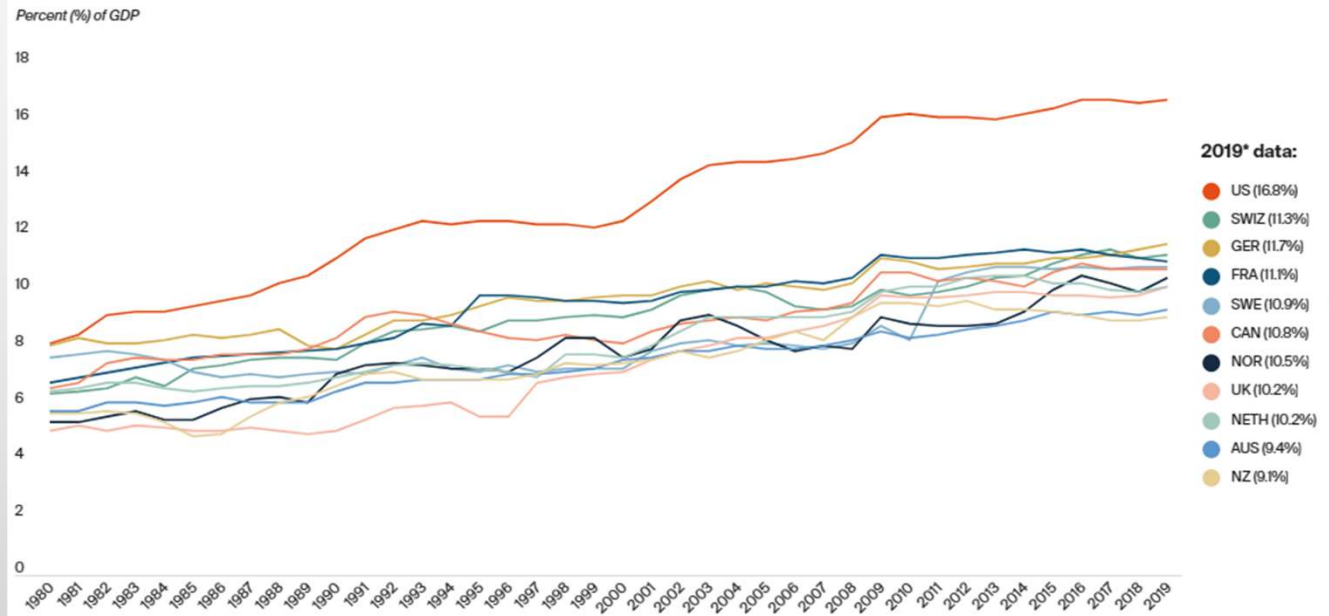
- Incredibly expensive (\$2 trillion wasted!)
- In 2021, roughly 30 million people did not have health insurance
- Forty-three percent of working-age adults were inadequately insured in 2022
- There were about 250,000 personal bankruptcies in 2022 caused primarily by medical debt
- We pay 2x to 10x as much for pharmaceuticals as other countries
- Cancer treatment costs can result in significant debt that lasts long after treatment has ended, even for those with insurance



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EXHIBIT 3

Health Care Spending as a Percentage of GDP, 1980–2019



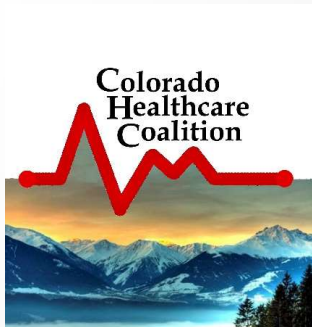
Notes: Current expenditures on health. Based on System of Health Accounts methodology, with some differences between country methodologies. GDP refers to gross domestic product.

* 2019 data are provisional or estimated for Australia, Canada, and New Zealand.

Data: OECD Health Data, July 2021.

Source: Eric C. Schneider et al., *Mirror, Mirror 2021 – Reflecting Poorly: Health Care in the U.S. Compared to Other High-Income Countries* (Commonwealth Fund, Aug. 2021).

<https://doi.org/10.26099/01DV-H208>



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We do NOT get better healthcare than people in other developed countries!

Commonwealth Fund 2021: Key Findings: The top-performing countries overall are Norway, the Netherlands, and Australia. The United States ranks last overall, despite spending far more of its gross domestic product on health care. The U.S. ranks last on access to care, administrative efficiency, equity, and health care outcomes, but second on measures of care process.



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WHY?

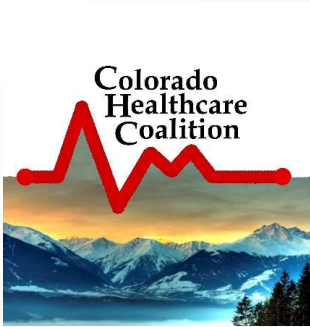
Our healthcare system is designed to make billions of dollars in profits for large companies, NOT provide healthcare to all who need it. This is much different than other countries.



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WHY?

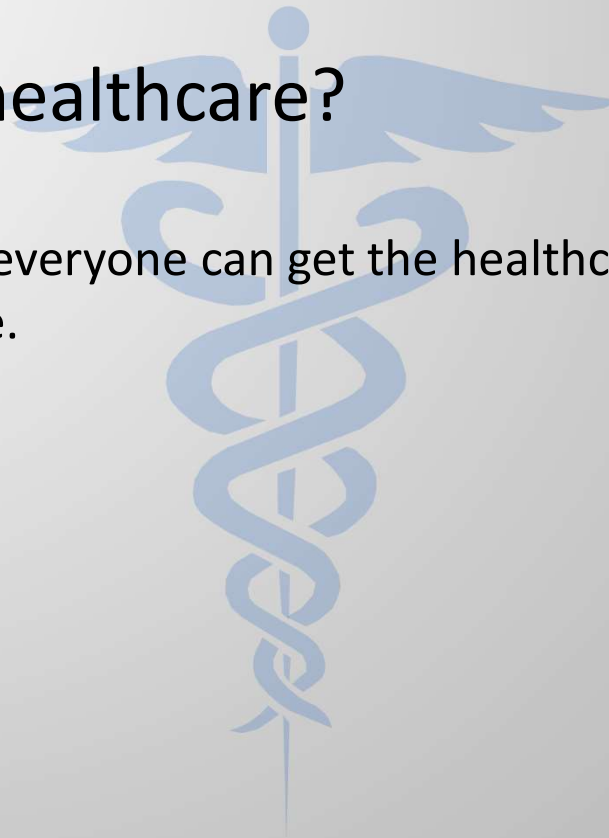
Some healthcare executives make 10's of millions of dollars each year, and some large corporations make billions of dollars in profits each year. They are absolutely opposed to making drastic changes in the healthcare system and will spend hundreds of millions of dollars lobbying to keep the current system.

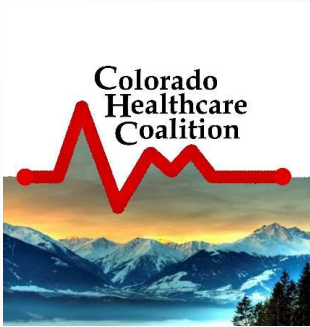


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What is universal healthcare?

Answer: Any system where everyone can get the healthcare they need, regardless of how much money they have.



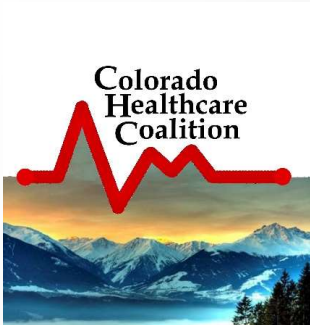


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Is single-payer the only option if we want universal healthcare in the US?

Answer: No, but it probably makes the most sense.

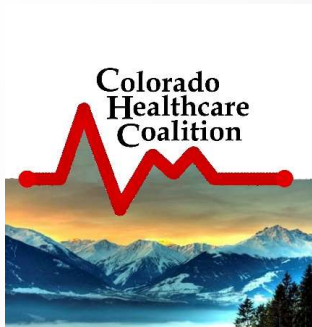




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What is a single-payer healthcare system?

- In a single-payer system, a government agency takes over all payment functions, but healthcare continues to be delivered by the same, mostly private, entities.
- Doctors and patients make healthcare decisions, not insurance companies.
- The government agency just collects funds and pays for healthcare.



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Who would be opposed to a single-payer universal healthcare system?

Answer: The people and companies making massive profits off the current system. The most prominent “special interests” would be health insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, and large hospital chains.



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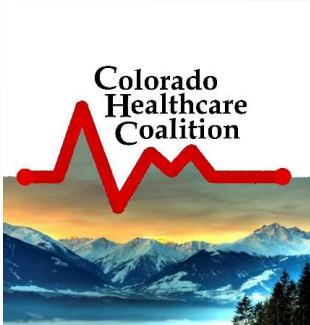


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What will the special interests say about single-payer?

You don't want socialized medicine, do you?

Actually, though, single-payer is not socialized medicine. Socialized medicine means that the government runs the healthcare system. (Great Britain for example.) In a single-payer system, the government agency just takes care of paying healthcare bills. Doctors and patients make healthcare decisions.

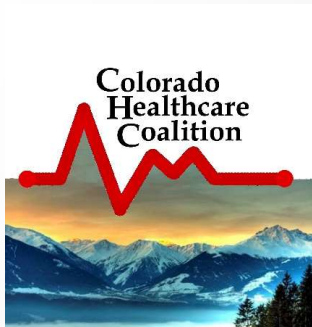


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What will the special interests say about single-payer?

Private companies are always more efficient than the government.

Perhaps when it comes to making a profit, this is mostly true. But private health insurance companies spend 18% to 20% of every dollar on administration and profit. Medicare, on the other hand, spends only 2% to 3% on administration and nothing on profit. Which is more efficient at actually delivering healthcare?

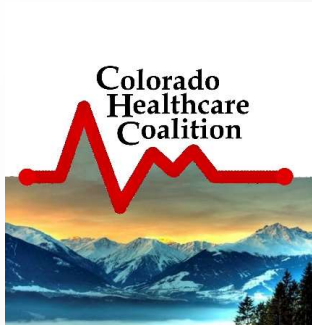


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What will the special interests say about single-payer?

We can't say for certain that single-payer would work in the US.

Our closest neighbor, Canada, has had a single-payer system for over 60 years. It works quite well, and Canadians strongly support it. We are not that different than Canada, and there is no reason at all to suggest that a single-payer system would not work here.

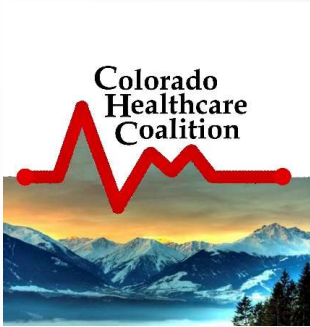


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What will the special interests say about single-payer?

There is not enough public support for a US single-payer system.

That could be because of all the lobbying done by the special interests! In any case, the chances of establishing universal healthcare at the federal level are quite low at the current time. That is why we are looking at a single-payer system for the state of Colorado.

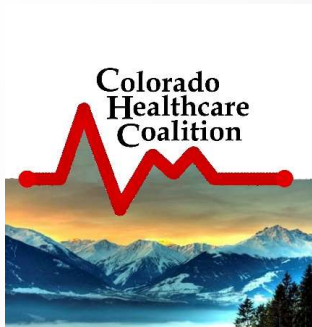


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What will the special interests say about single-payer?

A single-state single-payer system would not be efficient.

A single-state system would not be as efficient as a federal system, but a study by the Colorado School of Public Health, released in 2021, showed that Coloradans would save between \$1 billion and \$4 billion with a Colorado single-payer system. And that system would cover every resident of Colorado!

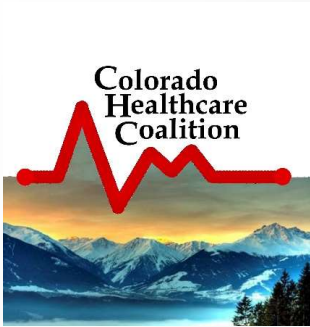


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What will the special interests say about single-payer?

All the doctors will quit because they won't get paid enough.

It would be stupid to create a system to provide healthcare to all Coloradans and then pay the doctors so little that they quit! In any case, the report by the School of Public health showed that Coloradans would save \$1 billion a year, even if we paid 250% of Medicare rates. And administrative costs would be much lower for providers.



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Why would we want a single-state system?

Those of us at the Colorado Healthcare Coalition would much prefer a federal single-payer system. However, Coloradans can benefit greatly from a Colorado system. And we would expect that after a few states show that this does work, the pressure for a federal system would become irresistible. (This is how it worked in Canada, BTW.)



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What is the next step?

A bill, HB24-1075, called “Analysis of Universal Health-Care Payment System” has been introduced in the 2024 Colorado legislature and passed the Health and Human Services Committee on February 7. HB24-1075 will commission a detailed analysis of the feasibility of creating a publicly financed, privately delivered universal healthcare system in Colorado, including how to finance this system, and the impact to the workforce. This is designed to provide the information needed to craft a single-payer system that will work well for all Coloradans. Ask your representative and senator to support this bill.

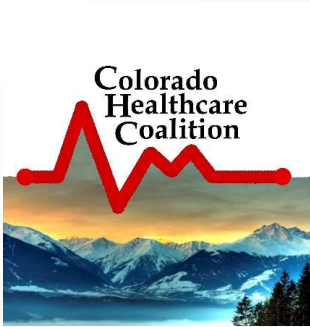


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How are we moving forward?

A group of non-profit organizations, all advocating for universal healthcare, have come together under the Alliance for Colorado Health Care umbrella to be more effective working together.

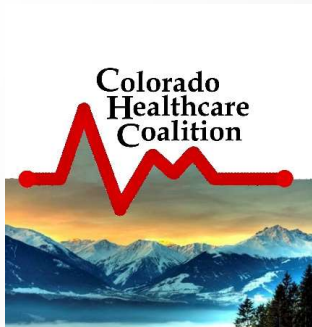
<https://a4chc.org>



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Why hasn't the public demanded universal healthcare?

Good question!

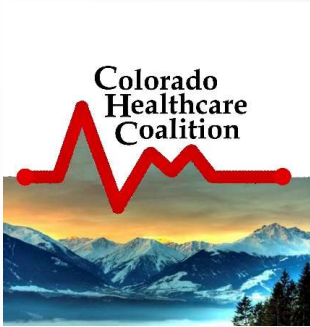


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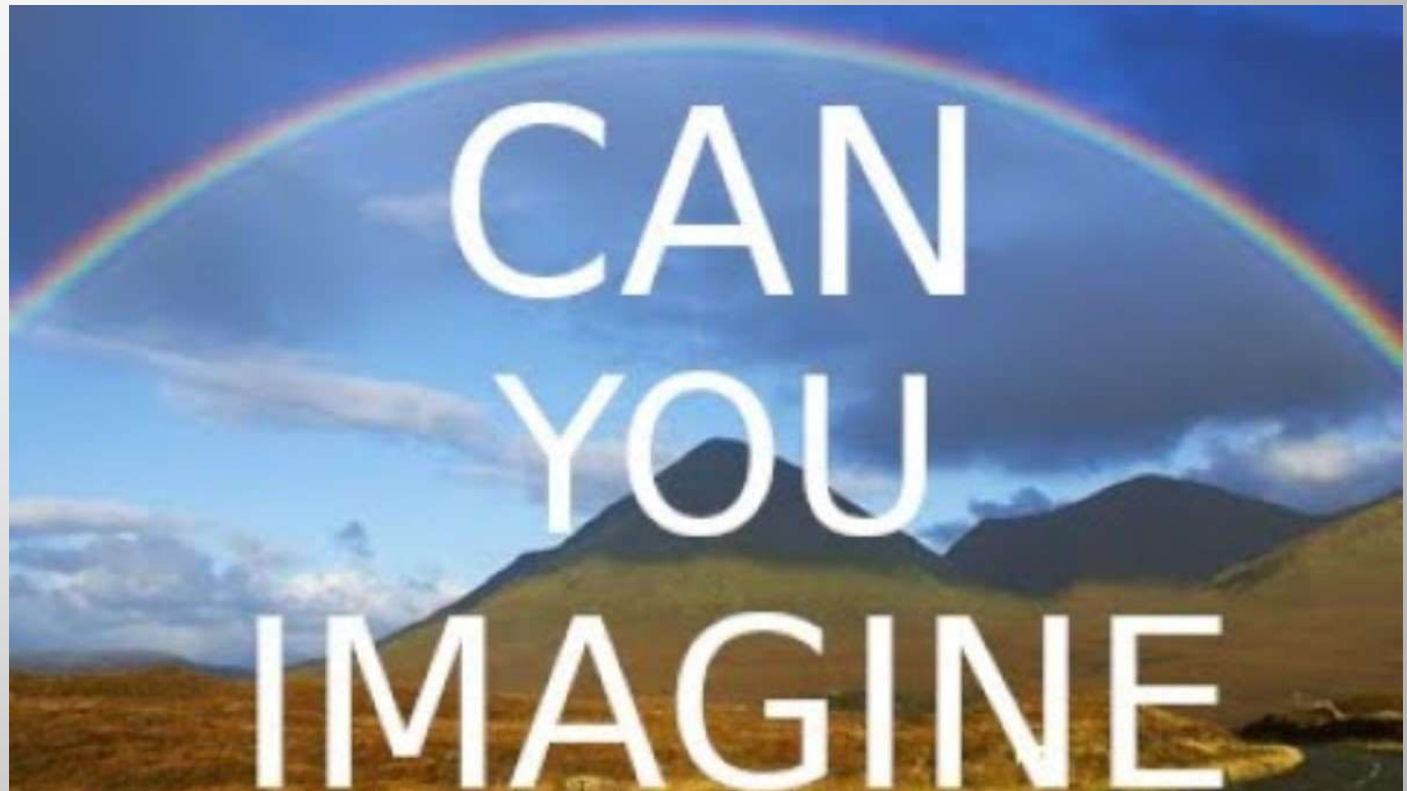
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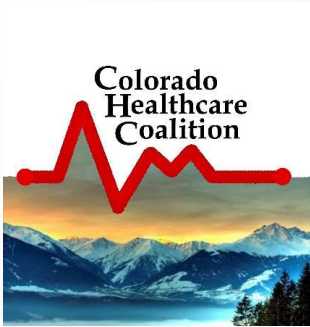
Join or donate to the Colorado Healthcare Coalition, a 501c3 non-profit corporation, or to other non-profit advocates for universal healthcare. It is going to cost a lot to get the truth to the citizens of Colorado in the face of misinformation spread by the special interests. And get involved!

www.cohccoalition.org



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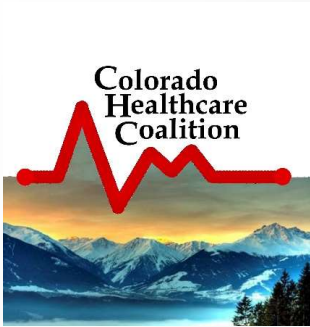




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What can you do?

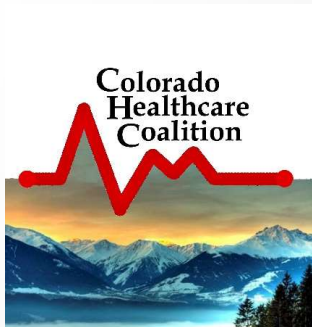




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Questions?

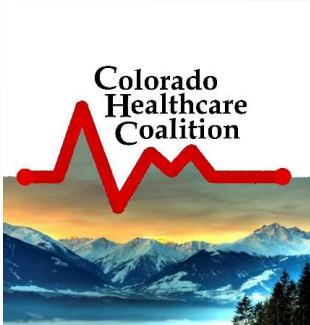




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Thank you for your attention. Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions or to join our group.

info@cohccoalition.org



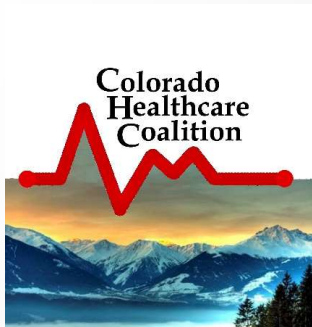
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I'd like to ask you a question.

Can you imagine an efficient, equitable, and comprehensive universal health care system in Colorado?

Can you imagine all Colorado residents being covered?

Can you imagine receiving comprehensive medically appropriate care, including dental, hearing, vision and mental health care?



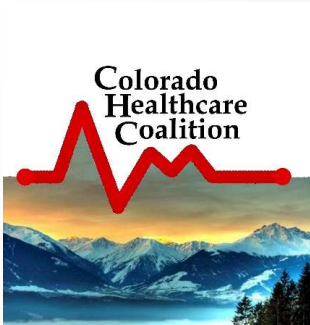
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Can you imagine receiving home care and long-term care?

Can you imagine being free to make health care decisions with your health care providers?

Can you imagine being free to choose your qualified health care providers?

Can you imagine funding this system by paying premiums based on your ability to pay?



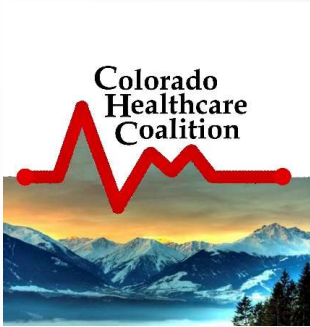
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Can you imagine being free from deductibles, copays, and medical debt?

Can you imagine benefiting from fair drug and hospital prices and having health care providers receive fair payment?

Can you imagine being free from middlemen with the incentives and power to limit benefits or impose other barriers to your care?

Can you imagine gaining this kind of freedom from simply changing the messed-up way we pay for health care?



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Can you imagine?
We can!!

