



# John Kerry and the Democratic Party: A Health Care Plan for All Americans



“I believe that health care isn’t just a privilege for the wealthy, the connected, or the elected – but a right for all Americans. I believe health care costs shouldn’t be driving families and businesses into debt. I think it’s just plain wrong that the greatest generation is still making the greatest sacrifices for our country.”  
Senator John Kerry, Democratic Party Presidential Nominee

## George W. Bush: Unhealthy for Americans

Did you know that under George Bush so far:

- ❖ The number of people without health insurance has increased each year, to a record 46 million?
- ❖ Health insurance premiums have increased \$2,600 over these last three years?

Did you know that George Bush’s plan for the next four years:

- ❖ Only proposes providing new health care access to 2.4 million Americans, not even enough to cover four million who have lost coverage under his first four years?
- ❖ Cuts \$16 billion from Medicaid, kicking 500,000 children off government health benefits?

## George W. Bush: His Health Care Plan Adds To Economic Nightmare

Did you know that under George Bush so far:

- ❖ Businesses of all sizes say that rising health care costs prevent them from hiring new workers?
- ❖ Prescription drug costs have risen at four times the rate of inflation – up 17% last year alone?
- ❖ The Health and Human Services Secretary has been forbidden to negotiate lower drug prices for Medicare, handing a financial windfall to HMOs and pharmaceutical companies?
- ❖ The Bush Administration has banned the re-importation of FDA-approved, low-cost prescription drugs from Canada and other countries, keeping medications at artificially inflated prices?

Did you know that George Bush’s plan for the next four years:

- ❖ Proposes Health Savings Accounts that would actually *increase* out-of-pocket health care costs for workers, and do nothing for low-income families?
- ❖ Supports a program called Associated Health Plans, that the Congressional Budget Office estimates will raise premiums for 4 out of 5 small businesses?

“Certainly the long-term trend is firms offering less generous (benefit) plans, and as people lose jobs they tend to lose health insurance coverage.”

-Dan Weinberg, Census Bureau

## John Kerry Has a Plan Quality, Affordable Health Care For All Americans!

Santa Clara County Democratic Party | [www.sccdp.org](http://www.sccdp.org) | 408-445-9500

For more information:

Latest non-partisan census figures (8/26/04) <http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/p60-226.pdf>

Supporting documentation: <http://sccdp.org/health.php>

Compare the Bush vs. Kerry Plans at: [http://www.johnkerry.com/issues/health\\_care/compare.html](http://www.johnkerry.com/issues/health_care/compare.html)

Read Kerry’s full plan at: [http://www.johnkerry.com/issues/health\\_care/health\\_care.html](http://www.johnkerry.com/issues/health_care/health_care.html)

## John Kerry Has a Plan to Expand Access to Quality Health Care

- Kerry's Plan would cover an additional 8 million children, expanding coverage to all children.
- Kerry's Plan would cover an additional 27 million Americans (vs. Bush's 2.4 million).
- Kerry's Plan would pass a real Patient's Bill of Rights to ensure that doctors and patients are in charge of medical decisions, not HMOs and insurance companies.
- Kerry's Plan would end discrimination against Americans with mental illness and fight for mental health parity in health insurance.
- Kerry's Plan would ensure seniors living in nursing homes receive quality care through adequate inspections and better training of health care workers.

## John Kerry Has a Plan to Lower the Costs of Health Coverage

- Kerry's Plan would lower health care premiums by as much as \$1,000.
- Kerry's Plan would give small businesses tax credits to cover up to 50% of health care premiums.
- Kerry's Plan would help Americans buy into the Congressional Health Plan to ensure access to quality coverage and provide tax credits to make it more affordable.

## John Kerry Has a Plan to Cut the Cost of Prescription Drugs

- John Kerry will authorize the Health and Human Services Secretary to negotiate lower drug prices and offer a real Medicare prescription drug benefit.
- John Kerry will end artificial barriers to competition from low-cost generic drugs.
- John Kerry will allow re-importation of low-cost, FDA-approved prescription drugs from Canada.

**Real Values Mean Real Actions**  
**John Kerry and The Democrats:**  
**Quality, Affordable Health Care for All Americans!**

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