

Supreme Court Ruling Does Not End the Patient Care Crisis

Healthcare, Not More Insurance — Let's Win Improved Medicare for All

The Affordable Care Act was designed to keep the private insurance business in charge of health care, not the patients or the public. A simpler, more cost effective, comprehensive approach that would guarantee healthcare would be to improve Medicare and expand Medicare to cover everyone.

What the law does right:

- Expanded Medicaid coverage for the most low income
- Increased funding for community health centers
- Children can stay on parents plans up to age 26
- Some restraints on insurance abuses, lifetime caps and denials based on pre-existing conditions

What the law does wrong:

- 27 million people will still have no health coverage
- No real limits on what insurance companies, hospitals, and drug companies can charge — or on insurers denying treatment or referrals they don't want to pay for
- Expands the profit-driven insurance system by forcing the uninsured to buy private insurance
- Promotes wasteful hospital spending on IT systems and bogus "patient satisfaction" goals that undermine RN professional judgment and quality patient care

How the patient care crisis will continue:

- Employers will continue to drop coverage and shift more costs to employees
- Insurance costs will continue to skyrocket — up to half of household income by 2018
- More families will face bankruptcy from high medical bills — or choose to skip or delay needed care
- Private insurance system will be strengthened with more incentive than ever to make decisions on coverage and care based on profits, not patient need
- States can still opt out of Medicaid expansion under the court ruling

What We Can Do:

- Continue the campaign for a permanent fix to our broken healthcare system
- Improve and expand Medicare to cover everyone. Stop privatization efforts, promote expanded funding for Medicare
- Work with healthcare and community activists in every state-based Medicare for all programs
- Campaign to re-direct public subsidies for coverage from private insurers to state
- Sign and circulate our Medicare for All petition
- Tell us how the patient care crisis is affecting you and send to www.NursesHealAmerica.org

