



ColoradoCare 2016 Ballot Measure Amendment 69

Information Sheet

Background: Because so many Coloradans remain uninsured or unable to afford health care even with insurance, and on behalf of families, businesses, providers and the state economy, Colorado needs to proactively address the problems and change the way we pay for health care. The Affordable Care Act, section 1332, encourages state innovation. Amendment 69 will be on the Colorado ballot Nov. 8, 2016.

Here's what ColoradoCare would provide:

- **Universal:** Every resident would have lifelong health care coverage. Period.
- **Independent:** Freed from government agencies, partisan politics and money waving lobbyists, ColoradoCare would be a cooperative-type business that operates in the interest of the residents of Colorado.
- **Realistic Planning:** Developed over several years by State Senator Irene Aguilar, MD with local and national policy advisors, economists, legal consultants and stakeholders, the efficiencies, benefits and policies of ColoradoCare are practical and realistic.
- **Fiscally Responsible:** Colorado already spends enough money on health care. If these dollars were spent wisely, every resident would have access to comprehensive coverage. **No additional spending** is required. Piecemeal cost controls have not been sufficiently effective. Documented savings occur when a coordinated system decreases administrative costs; increases bulk purchasing; fosters great ideas; and promotes nonmedical cost cutting.
- **Affordable and Fair:** In addition to government money already earmarked for health care, each resident would pay according to income. As starting income earners or when hard times hit, people would pay on a smaller income. When earning more, they, in essence, would pay back or pay forward and **always** have health care.
- **Freedom:** Patients would make treatment decisions with their choice of health care professionals. Providers could choose to be public, private, for profit, nonprofit, independent or salaried.
- **Good Health Benefits:** Coverage would exceed Colorado and federal benefit requirements, with no deductibles, no co-pays for designated primary and preventive care, and other co-pays that could be waived for financial need. Mental health is covered as it is considered fully a part of physical health.
- **Employers' Relief:** Employers would pay a percentage of payroll as their portion of the health funding, and pay as simply as they pay Social Security and FICA.
- **Provider Satisfaction:** Providers would get paid; ending uncompensated care. Billing and insurance related costs and time would be slashed. Health care professionals would simply provide health care.
- **Strong State Economy:** Out-of-state and out-of-country money currently spent on administration, executive salaries, lobbyists, etc., would stay in Colorado communities. Health services are local, and the money would create jobs and build a strong local and state economy.
- **Health Equity:** Health needs know no class, race, ability or other distinction. Access to quality, affordable health care must be, and can be, equitable.
- **Reliability:** With local control and a transparent, audited system; responsive to and directed by residents; ColoradoCare ends the unpredictability of the secret deals and continual changes imposed by the insurance industry.

For more information: www.ColoradoCare.org