

## WHAT COULD YOU DO WITH \$70 BILLION DOLLARS?

- Rebuild 30,000 lane miles of road?**
- Build 560,000 units of affordable housing?**
- Hire 1 million teachers, firefighters, police and other critical employees?**
- Renovate 7,000 schools?**

### Health Care Savings for Healthier Cities

For far too long, rising health care costs have drained local and state budgets of the resources they need to rebuild, renovate and restore the vitality of their communities.

- Our employees are paying more in premiums, co-pays and deductibles, yet too many are denied needed care.
- Increasing health benefits costs—averaging 11% a year since 1999--- consume city and county budgets, leaving more and more of our residents uninsured. (Currently, 48 million Americans lack health insurance.)
- Tax revenues cannot fill the gap, especially during an economic downturn.
- As state and local government debt increases, bond ratings go down.
- With state and local coffers bleeding, residents face cuts in needed services such as police and fire protection, medical services for the uninsured, parks and recreation.

The passage of HR 676—Improved Medicare-for-All—is a win-win situation. It could transform this bleak picture, providing guaranteed health care for all while helping financially-strapped state and local governments find new monies to underwrite growing challenges. **Indeed, estimates show that they could realize at least \$70 billion in annual health care savings.**

Check out the Win-Win Campaign: [www.healthcare-now.org](http://www.healthcare-now.org)  
 Be an effective advocate for HR 676. Learn more at:  
[www.house.gov/conyers](http://www.house.gov/conyers) [www.calnurses.org](http://www.calnurses.org) [www.pnhp.org](http://www.pnhp.org)

### Healthy Cure for Ailing Cities

State legislatures and the US Congress have proposed reform measures to address the health insurance crisis. Because most do not change the way we finance health care, they fall woefully short.

Benefit	State Reform Bills	HR 676
Guarantee, comprehensive coverage for everyone from the “womb to the tomb”	NO	YES
Reduce state and local government health benefits costs for employees	NO	YES
Reduce government employee share of health benefits costs	NO	YES
Remove state and local responsibility for retired employee health benefits	NO	YES
Reduce charity care	Some reductions	YES
Reduce administrative and labor negotiation costs	NO	YES
Limit treatment decisions to patient and doctor only	NO	YES

HR 676—Improved Medicare-for-All—is the best cure for the American health care crisis because:

- It **saves money and controls costs** by replacing multiple public and private payers with a single national health insurance program. The national program will negotiate fees with providers, purchase drugs and medical supplies in bulk, and monitor budgets and capital plans for hospitals and other medical facilities.
- It **minimizes risk**, combining the whole US population into one large pool of over 300 million people.
- It **eliminates private insurance**. Private insurance eats up 30% of every dollar in profits due to marketing and administration. Medicare operates on less than 5% overhead.
- It **simplifies health care**. One program will cover all health issues for everyone.
- It guarantees quality **care for all**. No one can be denied care or forced to use an emergency room because s/he has no doctor or coverage.

