



As an organization of small business owners, entrepreneurs, associations and organizations representing over 200,000 members, we have grave concerns about the “Medicare for All” concept.

This week, the House Rules Committee is hosting the first-ever congressional hearing on “Medicare for All.” Over 100 House Democrats are cosponsors of the *Medicare for All Act of 2019*, and five Senators running for President have endorsed the concept.

One of those Senators, Bernie Sanders, told CBS News that his “Medicare for All” plan would “get rid of insurance companies.” Specifically, he warned those who currently have employer-based insurance “you’re going to have to change that” because “all people will be covered by Medicare.” The implications of Sanders’s statement are undeniable: “Medicare for All” means the complete abolishment of all private health insurance. That will be devastating for America’s small business owners and their employees.

According to a 2015 report from the National Small Business Association, 65 percent of small businesses offer health insurance to their employees. This means that abolishing private health insurance would eliminate healthcare choices for up to 38 million Americans employed by small businesses. Over 200 million Americans, in total, will be impacted.

President Obama famously promised that “if you like your healthcare plan, you can keep it,” only to break his pledge when 4 million Americans lost their plan because of the Affordable Care Act. “Medicare for All” would be a disaster for small business, forcing many millions into a system similar to those that have failed miserably in other countries – where people wait for months for badly-needed procedures risking further decline of health or death, where access to care is limited and literally rationed. “Medicare for All” would be devastating to job creators and their employees. It is a prescription for higher costs, less choice, and lower wages. It will blunt job creation, delivering a damaging body blow to our growing economy.

Members of Congress must take a stand now. Small businesses are the backbone of the growing economy, creating two out of three new jobs in America.

We urge you to publicly reject “Medicare for All” and support the continued existence of a private health insurance market by opening up more choice and competition in healthcare instead of going in a radical direction that has proven to be failure many times over.

We look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

Alfredo Ortiz  
President and CEO  
Job Creators Network