

DEAN'S PRIORITY:

HEALTHCARE FOR ALL AMERICANS

"I believe it's time we make the moral decision to ensure every American has affordable, high-quality healthcare – no matter their age, geography or condition. I will support immediate action that gets us closer to that goal – and I will not rest until it's achieved."

- Dean Phillips

DEAN'S PLAN

Twenty-eight million Americans lack health insurance, and as many as 30,000 people die every year as a result. Millions more cannot afford the insurance they have and are one health crisis away from bankruptcy. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was an important step forward in providing critical protections for patients, but more needs to be done to bring down the cost of care. Here's what Dean would do:

FIX AND IMPROVE THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Dean supports bipartisan proposals to stabilize insurance markets established by the ACA and bring more competition to areas lacking insurance options. Andy Slavitt and former Senator Bill Frist, among others, have laid out a number of commonsense ideas for how to achieve this. Dean believes these proposals should be debated openly and brought to votes.

EXPAND MEDICARE AS AN OPTION FOR ALL AMERICANS

Dean supports the expansion of Medicare as a public option for all Americans – while preserving the protections established under the ACA. This way, more would benefit from the lower cost, higher quality care provided by Medicare – and those Americans with employer-provided care that works for them would maintain the freedom to keep it.

REDUCE THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Americans subsidize the entire world's prescription drug prices, and Dean believes it's time to require Medicare to negotiate on behalf of all Americans to achieve significantly lower costs. And he will crack down on drug companies that engage in predatory pricing schemes.

REFORM THE CARE DELIVERY MODEL

While the ACA represented an historic expansion of healthcare coverage, it didn't do enough to reform the system and the cost-drivers that lead to higher healthcare costs for all Americans. Dean says often that we have a sick-care system, not a healthcare system, and we need to change the incentive structure to reward prevention over procedures. That's why Dean will not support any plan that fails to include significant reforms that lower costs.



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