Health Care is a Right

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Health care is a right. That debate is over. Donald Trump and the Republicans should stop reducing people who might lose health care coverage to a political football. While no option is perfect, we cannot take away benefits already provided by the government, as the current congressional health care fiasco teaches us.

Hence, there are only two viable choices: (1) Affirm Barack Obama’s conclusion, unlike that of the Clinton administration, that we must simultaneously retain the private market while guaranteeing that people — especially those with preexisting conditions — can afford insurance, and that to do this necessitates both an insurance mandate to expand the risk pool and the subsequent development of measures to fix inevitable leaks in the dam; or (2) adopt a single-payer system, along the lines of Medicare for all.

Note that both approaches recognize the right to health care and the need for the federal government to be involved and underwrite part, if not all, of the system.

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