

Asif Mahmood supports a healthcare plan so extreme even Joe Biden opposed it. Mahmood's plan could cost thirty-two trillion dollars and result in a government takeover of health care that could increase taxes on families and eliminate private health insurance plans.

## BACKUP:

### In May 2022, Asif Mahmood said he is for Medicare For All:

- **MAHMOOD:** “Medicare For All, yes, I’m for that...My passion is healthcare...From day one, I will work on healthcare, especially Medicare For All and cutting down the age.” (Laguna Woods Democratic Club Presents: Monthly Program May 2022, Village Television, [YouTube](#), 05/23/22) (21:38) ([NRCC YouTube](#))

### In 2018, Asif Mahmood supported Medicare For All:

- **Asif Mahmood ran for the office of insurance commissioner of California and made healthcare his top campaign platform.** “It’s probably no surprise to hear that Dr. Asif Mahmood, a practicing physician who’s running for the office of insurance commissioner of California, has made healthcare his top campaign platform.” (Don Jergler, “Physician Running for California Commissioner Wants Universal Healthcare,” [Insurance Journal](#), 03/13/18)
  - **Mahmood said “I am for universal health care, single-payer healthcare, and Medicare for all...”** “Mahmood spoke recently with Insurance Journal about the race and said he wants it known that as a physician he has a good insight into what’s needed for California’s healthcare system. ‘And I just want to add one thing, that I am for universal health care, single-payer healthcare, and Medicare for all, because I believe in quality care, and in my practice of 18 years I have never charged the patient who did not have an insurance because I believe healthcare is a right, not a privilege,’ he said.” (Don Jergler, “Physician Running for California Commissioner Wants Universal Healthcare,” [Insurance Journal](#), 03/13/18)

### Joe Biden indicated that he opposes Medicare For All due to its cost and that the plan could raise taxes on the middle-class:

- A headline from CNBC indicating that Joe Biden opposes Medicare For All over its price tag.

POLITICS

## **Biden suggests he would veto ‘Medicare for All’ over its price tag**

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(Tucker Higgins, “Biden suggests he would veto ‘Medicare for All’ over its price tag,” [CNBC](#), 03/10/20)

- **Joe Biden opposes Medicare For All and suggested he would veto the legislation citing costs.** “Former Vice President Joe Biden suggested that he would veto the universal health-care legislation known as “Medicare for All” championed by his Democratic presidential

primary rival Sen. Bernie Sanders, citing costs.” (Tucker Higgins, “Biden suggests he would veto ‘Medicare for All’ over its price tag,” [CNBC](#), 03/10/20)

- **Editor’s Note:** *Biden’s team subsequently denied he said he would veto the legislation.*
- **Joe Biden indicated that he opposes legislation due to the \$35 trillion cost and that it could raise taxes on the middle-class.** “Biden added: “I want to know, how did they find \$35 trillion? What is that doing? Is it going to significantly raise taxes on the middle class, which it will? What’s going to happen?”” (Tucker Higgins, “Biden suggests he would veto ‘Medicare for All’ over its price tag,” [CNBC](#), 03/10/20)

### Medicare For All could cost \$32 trillion dollars over ten years:

- **A May 2016 study by the Urban Institute said Sanders’ Medicare for all proposal would increase federal government spending by \$2.5 trillion in the first year and \$32 trillion over 10-years** “In total, federal spending would increase by about \$2.5 trillion (257.6 percent) in 2017. Federal expenditures would increase by about \$32.0 trillion (232.7 percent) between 2017 and 2026.” (John Holahan, et al, “The Sanders Single-Payer Health Care Plan,” [The Urban Institute](#), 5/16)

### Medicare for All is a type of single payer health care system, which would put the government in charge of your health insurance:

- **Medicare for all is a type of single payer health care plan.** “What is single-payer health care? This one is pretty simple if you understand Medicare for all. Single-payer is a more general term used to describe a government system, typically backed by taxes, in which everyone gets health care from one insurer, run by the government. Think of Medicare for all as a brand-name single-payer plan.” (Margot Sanger-Katz, “The Difference Between a ‘Public Option’ and ‘Medicare for All’? Let’s Define Our Terms,” [New York Times](#), 2/19/19)
  - **Medicare for All is a system in which all Americans get health insurance through the government.** “What is Medicare for all? This increasingly popular term was coined to describe a system in which all Americans, not just older ones, get health insurance through the government’s Medicare system.” (Margot Sanger-Katz, “The Difference Between a ‘Public Option’ and ‘Medicare for All’? Let’s Define Our Terms,” [New York Times](#), 2/19/19)
  - **Single payer is government run health care.** “What is single-payer health care? This one is pretty simple if you understand Medicare for all. Single-payer is a more general term used to describe a government system, typically backed by taxes, in which everyone gets health care from one insurer, run by the government.” (Margot Sanger-Katz, “The Difference Between a ‘Public Option’ and ‘Medicare for All’? Let’s Define Our Terms,” [New York Times](#), 2/19/19)

### Medicare for All would eliminate private insurance and increase taxes on the middle class:

- **Medicare for All would eliminate private insurance.** “The co-chair of the Progressive Caucus is releasing a proposal Wednesday to transition the United States to a single-payer health care system, one in which a single, government-run health plan provides insurance coverage to all Americans. ‘We mean a complete transformation of our health care system and we mean a system where there are no private insurance companies that provide these

core benefits,' Jayapal told reporters Tuesday. 'We mean universal care, everybody in, nobody out.'" (Sarah Kliff, "Medicare-for-all: Rep. Pramila Jayapal's new bill, explained," [Vox](#), 2/26/19)

- **According to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, Medicare for All would increase taxes on the middle class.** "With several 2020 presidential candidates endorsing a move to single-payer health care (Medicare for All), there is an ongoing debate over whether such a plan would include higher taxes on the middle class... Regardless of the overall impact of Medicare for All, it is clear that taxes on the middle class would have to rise in order to pay for it. Those taxes could be imposed directly on workers, indirectly through taxes on employers or consumption, or through a combination of direct or indirect taxes. There is simply not enough available revenue from high earners and businesses to cover the full cost of eliminating premiums, ending all cost-sharing, and expanding coverage to all Americans and for (virtually) all health services." ("Would Medicare for All Require a Middle-Class Tax Hike?" [Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget](#), 10/22/19)
- **Sanders' Medicare for all plan would be funded through an increase in taxes, including a new payroll tax, higher income taxes, higher taxes on capital gains and dividends, and changes to the estate tax.** "They propose a 2.2 percent income-based premium on households, a 6.2 percent payroll tax imposed on employers, additional revenues from revisions to the estate tax, increases in taxes on capital gains and dividends, new limits on deductions for high-income taxpayers, and increases in income taxes that largely affect high-income people." (John Holahan, et al, "The Sanders Single-Payer Health Care Plan," [The Urban Institute](#), May 2016)
  - **Sanders' plan includes a wealth tax and changes to the estate tax.** "There are other financing proposals in the Sanders white paper too, including a wealth tax on the top 0.1 percent of American earners (which Sanders estimates to be approximately 160,000 households) and altering the estate tax to gain more revenue from especially high-value estates above \$50 million." (Sarah Kliff, "How much is that Medicare-for-all plan in the window?," [Vox](#), 9/13/17)
  - **Sanders' plan would implement a 7.5% payroll tax on employers and a new 4% income tax.** "He suggests a 7.5 percent payroll tax on employers, which his office expects to raise \$3.9 trillion over the next decade (these numbers have not yet been evaluated by the Congressional Budget Office). Sanders would exempt a company's first \$2 million in payroll from this tax, a way to shield small businesses from this provision. He also proposes a 4 percent income tax surcharge on individuals." (Sarah Kliff, "How much is that Medicare-for-all plan in the window?," [Vox](#), 9/13/17)
  - **Sanders' plan would increase taxes for 8.5 million seniors over the age of 65 and eligible for Medicare.** "Yet, under his plan, the nation's 8.5 million seniors over the age of 65 and already eligible for Medicare would also get hit with tax increases." (Heidi M. Przybyla, "Sanders' 'Medicare for all' plan may not help working seniors," [USA Today](#), 1/24/16)
  - **According to the Mercatus Center, doubling federal individual and corporate income tax collections would be "insufficient" to pay for the cost of the plan.** "A doubling of all currently projected federal individual and corporate income tax collections would be insufficient to finance the added federal costs of the plan." (Charles Blahous, "The Costs of a National Single-Payer Healthcare System," [Mercatus Center](#), 7/30/18)

**Medicare for All legislation proposed by Senator Sanders would liquidate the existing Medicare trust funds:**

- **Medicare for All legislation proposed by Senator Sanders would liquidate the existing Medicare trust funds.** “While Mr. Sanders claims that his bill would extend Medicare to all, it would instead create an entirely new program while borrowing the Medicare name. Case in point: Section 701(d) of the Sanders bill would liquidate the existing Medicare trust funds, transferring their entire proceeds into a new ‘Universal Medicare Trust Fund.’” (Chris Jacobs, “Sanders Proposes Medicare for None,” [Wall Street Journal opinion](#), 1/17/18)