

[REDACTED]
Shelbyville, Indiana
46176

C-Span
400 N. Capitol, NW, #650
Washington, DC 20001

Sometime last week on the 6:30-7:15 and 7:15-9 PM call-in program, one of the callers asked one of your Congressional guests if Congress would be covered by the Clinton health plan. The answer was an unqualified yes.

I thought you might like to read the attached.

Three other thoughts - since October we only get C-Span 6:30 PM-7 AM, before we got during daytime hours. Unless you get program for evening, its quite difficult to tape. Also, the Indianapolis STAR and NEWS are among the too few carrying C-Span programs. That is a help.

*During
NAFTA vote
went off at
10 PM !!!*

I very much appreciate your musical selections, particularly during House votes.

What are the House's "Special orders"? / They can be long or short, on the events of the day or something I have never heard about, and always to an empty House. Who listens, who reads, are they only made so they will be printed in the daily journal, to be sent to the voter?

Keep up the good work!!!!

[REDACTED]

14 Dec 93

Guinea pigs

If Congress had to live under the same laws it forces on the general peasantry, the Clinton health care plan would never fly.

In this case, the issue is the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program. It is economical, efficient, market-driven and amazingly compact and simple compared to most federal programs.

The legislation creating it is 26 pages long. The legislation for the Clinton plan is 1,342 pages long.

The FEHBP, which covers all federal employees, is run by 144 federal officials. The Clinton health plan would require a bureaucracy estimated at 50,000.

The rate of premium increases in the FEHBP average one-third less than in typical corporate-sponsored plans.

In short, compared to others, the FEHBP is a dream of a health plan. Compared to the FEHBP, the Clinton plan is a nightmare.

No wonder federal employees were so alarmed when they learned that the White House planned to merge their program with the White House health program. They let their bosses know.

In response, James King, director of the Office of Personnel Management, who is responsible for running the program, solved the problem by deciding federal workers "be given the opportunity to see that national health reform is working before they are transitioned into it."

Some critics of the Clinton program have urged that it be tested on a limited scale before 250 million Americans are forced into it. At least we could see if it works.

As of now the Clinton administration has no such plans. While members of Congress and other federal employees are getting special consideration, if the Clinton health care plan passes, 250 million other Americans would be guinea pigs.

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