

History of Health Care Reform

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Common Historical Health Reform Issues:

- Failure of Legislation to pass in Congress
- Repeal as a result of Advocacy Groups
- Repeals or delay due to change in Political Power
- Delays due to Economical Issues that take precedence
- Introduction of War that overshadows Health Care initiatives.

Influential Presidents Who Have Attempted Health Care Reform:

- President Theodore Roosevelt
- President Franklin D. Roosevelt
- President Harry Truman
- President John F. Kennedy
- President Lyndon B. Johnson
- President Jimmy Carter
- President Ronald Reagan
- President George W. Bush
- President Barack Obama



1900-1930's:

- President Theodore Roosevelt promises national health insurance (1912)
- Popularity surrounding prepaid Hospital Insurance rises.
- President Harry S. Truman calls on Congress for health care overhaul (1945)
 - ◊ AMA stalls congress with warnings of 'socialized medicine.'
- President Truman attempts for reform after re-election but it is cast off with the outbreak of the Korean War. (1948) - **Failure**

1940-1960's:

- Supreme Court cements labor's role in health care by supporting employer's role in Health Care Benefits. (1949) - **Success**
- Addressing the nation in a televised national address, President John F. Kennedy tackles issue of health benefits for Social Security recipients by promoting his legislation. (1962)
 - ◊ Kennedy's plan is stalled in Congress by lobbying of Medical Industry - **Failure**
- President Lyndon B. Johnson signs legislation that creates Medicare and Medicaid programs (1965) - **Success**
 - ◊ Medicare: For senior citizens - Paid for by Federal employment tax (FICA Tax)
 - ◊ Medicaid: Allowed Federal Government to partially fund program for poor - managed by each state.



1970-1990's:

- President Jimmy Carter both campaigns and tries to call for Comprehensive National Health Insurance that includes universal and mandatory coverage (1976) - **Failure**
 - ◊ However, Economy collapse results in American healthcare being setback.
- Congress passes the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (Cobra). (1986) - **Success**
- Congress passes Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (1986) - **Success**
- COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985) amended Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). (1986) - **Success**
- Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act: is signed by President Ronald Reagan (1988)
 - ◊ Months after law enacted, Catastrophic Coverage Act repealed. (1989) - **Failure**
- President Bill Clinton launches reform effort to provide universal coverage using 'managed competition'. (1993)
- Mr. Clinton's Health Security Act fails to pass in Congress. (1994) - **Failure**

2000-2010:

- President Bush signs Medicare Modernization Act expanding Part D of Medicare to include prescription drug coverage. (2003) - **Success**

General Historical Health Care Facts

Late 1800's to 1912, the US government made no movement towards subsidizing voluntary funds or making sick insurance compulsory—responsibility left to States

Early 1900's, many European countries were passing their first social welfare acts and creating foundation for government run subsidized health care programs

The first real attempt for universal health care coverage in America began with President Theodore Roosevelt in his 1912 election.

The industrial sickness insurance employers bought in the early 1900's were the influential origin of our current American Health system.—Contributed to lack of interest in adopting govt based insurance like European countries.

Introduction of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965 caused health costs to rise considerably since health spending sharply increased as a result of millions of Americans gaining insurance.—Still major issue.

In early 1900's Health care was so cheap an American would spend \$5 on average a year or \$100 today when accounting for inflation.