

Linking Democracy, Healthcare and Monetary Reform

A fake democracy offers us the 'choice' between Trump or Clinton, both reviled by the majority of voters. A real democracy would require the winner to have more than 50% of the votes. Debates and media coverage would be required to include all national candidates. Voters would be asked to rank in preference the Republican, Democrat, Libertarian, Green and Socialist candidates. If none polls more than 50%, then votes move up the ladder of preference until one of the top two obtain a majority: also called run-off or instant run-off voting.

Thus allowing voters to hear different views and express support. It serves notice to the two monopoly parties that these views have support.

The same fake democracy offers us the 'choice' between the *Affordable Care Act* and *Ryan/Trumpcare*, two flawed options that continue insurance company control of our healthcare. A real democracy would add to the debate H.R. 676, Expanded & Improved Medicare For All Act, providing free healthcare for all Americans: covering all necessary care -- primary, prevention, dietary, nutritional, prescription drugs, emergency, long-term, mental, dental and vision care. (Supported by Physicians for National Health Program, Congressman John Conyers and 65 co-sponsors.)

A 2016 Gallup Poll gave Americans three options: repeal *Affordable Care Act*; keep *ACA*; replace *ACA* with "federally funded healthcare program providing insurance for all Americans. 'Insurance for All' won with 58% support, imagine the increased support that healthcare or *Medicare for All* would have.

A fake democracy features bank creation of money as debt. A real democracy has government created money, debt-free, for the needs of the nation and its people, as called for in the Constitution. The *NEED Act* put into Congress by Dennis Kucinich and John Conyers in 2011 would give us this and could be used to finance any unfunded part of the *Medicare For All Act*.

The *NEED Act* is fiscally sound. Economists at the International Monetary Fund embedded a comprehensive and carefully calibrated model of the banking system in a DSGE (dynamic stochastic general equilibrium) model of the U.S. economy, similar to the models used by the Federal Reserve. They concluded that monetary reforms that are in the *NEED Act* would:

- 1 Much better control business cycle fluctuations.
- 2 Completely eliminate bank runs.
- 3 Dramatically reduce public debt.
- 4 Dramatically reduce private debt.
- 5 While inflation drops to zero. (IMF Working Paper, Chicago Plan Revisited)

The *NEED Act* also pays off the federal debt and funds infrastructure repairs called for by the American Society of Civil Engineers, putting more than 10 million to work doing so, dwarfing meager infrastructure proposals by the Republicans and Democrats. It can also fund education and write off current student debt.

"Yes we can", have more democratic elections, all-inclusive free healthcare, monetary reform, upgraded infrastructure, millions of new good-paying jobs, pay off the federal debt, dramatically reduce our private debt, pay for education and write off student debt!

Or we can continue with fake democracy; expensive exclusionary healthcare; unsustainable federal, private and student debt; crumbling infrastructure; crappy jobs; and poorly funded education.

The *NEED Act* can be read at the American Monetary Institute's website monetary.org; *Medicare For All* at Physicians for a National Health Program pnhp.org/nhi. Join the fight for real democracy!

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Reference:

H.R. 676

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/676/cosponsors?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22congressId%3A115+AND+billStatus%3A%5C%22Introduced%5C%22%22%5D%7D&r=26>

Physicians for National Healthcare

<http://www.pnhp.org/nhi>

Gallup Poll

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/191504/majority-support-idea-fed-funded-healthcare-system.aspx>

NEED Act

<http://www.monetary.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/HR-2990.pdf>

Dr. Michael Kumhof and Dr. Jamomir Benes

IMF Working Paper, "The Chicago Plan Revisited"

<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2012/wp12202.pdf>