

MIT economist Jonathan Gruber to write graphic novel about Obama's health care plan

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's a controversial health-care policy that guarantees access to health insurance for more than 30 million Americans!

An MIT economist is planning to write a comic book to tell the story of the [Obama administration](#)'s recent health-care overhaul.

[Jonathan Gruber](#), one of the country's most prominent health-economics gurus, said he was pushed to adopt the story of [Obamacare](#) into a graphic novel from his comic-loving kids, according to the [Boston Herald](#).

But instead of a gripping page-turner depicting the President's epic partisan battle against bad guys like [House Speaker John Boehner](#) (alter ego: "Too Tan"), Gruber said the book will explain the wonky health law using simple language and the traditional comic format.

"I'm going to use the facts to tell the story," Gruber, 45, told the Herald. "I'm the narrator guiding the reader through the law. It'll have lots of pictures and text."

Publisher [Hill & Wang](#) -- which has done graphic novels about the Constitution, 9/11, [Ronald Reagan](#) and [Malcolm X](#) - said the book is set to come out this fall under the title, "Health Care Reform: What It Is, Why It's Necessary, How It Works."

Gruber, who has degrees from [MIT](#) and [Harvard](#), has [taught at MIT](#) since 1992 and is well-known for helping former [Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney](#) craft the state's health-care overhaul, which many called a model for the national plan.

Gruber said he shot down the idea when a Hill & Wang editor originally pitched it to him, but his family convinced him to give it a shot because too many people don't understand the bill.

One of the plan's biggest opponents said the book has the makings of a blockbuster – despite its eggheaded title.

"I've got to hand it to him," [Michael Cannon](#), director of health-policy studies at [The Cato Institute](#), told the paper. "It's a brilliant idea."

Read more: http://www.nydailynews.com/news/politics/2011/02/08/2011-02-08_mit_economist_jonathan_gruber_to_write_graphic_novel_about_obamas_health_care_pl.html#ixzz1DTIOqh8H