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Public option - great for U.S., bad for Republicans

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If we're going to have a public health care option, Americans will find their lives immediately made easier and they won't forget. It will be payback time.

The right-wing Cato Institute, a conservative think tank, has told the Republicans that if the public option becomes law, they'll be a minority party for the next 40 years, because the middle class will come to clearly see that the Democrats as the party that looks out for their interests, and the Republicans as the party that looks out for the insurance companies interests.

This is why the Cato Institute has advised the Republicans to fight against the public option as if their lives depended on it. And in a way, they're right, because it does.

The public option makes wonderful sense. The fact remains that the only downside to the public option is that it's just too awesome. We don't deserve anything that good. Simply put: it's Medicare, but without the age requirement and eventually without the co-insurance.

True health care reform means the end of the Republicans and seeing what a negative force they've had on American society and power. And exposing the hypocrisy and corruption of the Republican Party today is just the cherry on top of a good law whose time has come.

Nobel prize winner Paul Krugman has argued that racism is one of the major reasons why the U.S. doesn't have a public health system already. Republicans lie and spread fear that public health insurance would end up helping black, Latino, and poor people, not the middle class, and their far-right and deep-South base goes for it every time.

Why wouldn't some Americans seriously consider switching to the public option if it turned out to be more affordable and portable, from job to job, or between jobs — not to mention the fact that you wouldn't be turned down for a preexisting condition; you wouldn't be randomly booted from the plan as soon as you needed it most; you would never claim bankruptcy for medical bills, and you would never have to worry about health insurance coverage ever again. Employed or unemployed. Sick or healthy.

Public insurance for "old folks" was introduced in 60s - It's called Medicare. It's the plan your parents or grandparents have; ask them how they like it.

What will emerge from this health-care debate is a choice. Do we want a society that values money over people, racism over rationality, or a community that recognizes health care as a right for everyone?

If America is all about money and the denial of health benefits in order to further the performance of the stock market, the American dream will become the American nightmare. The choice is that simple.

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