

THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN HEALTH CARE: SEN. BARACK OBAMA (D-ILL.)

Obama Discusses Health Care Reform Plan

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"First, we will reduce costs for businesses and the workers by picking up the tab for some of the most expensive illnesses and conditions. Right now, two out of every 10 patients account for more than 80-percent of all health care costs. These are patients with serious illnesses like cancer or heart disease who require the most expensive surgeries and treatments. Insurance companies end up spending a lion's share of their expenses on these patients and they, not surprisingly, pass those expenses onto the rest of us in the form of higher premiums. Under my proposal, the federal government will pay for part of these catastrophic cases, which means that your premiums will go down."