

The Five (not so) Easy Pieces of Health Reform and The Last Detail(s)

American Enterprise Institute

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Health Reform Glossary

- Shared Responsibility

Just pay your premium and shut up

Picking three pockets sequentially, hoping none of them can add up the total taken

- Pooling

Hoping that others pay more, so you can pay less

Risk averaging that doesn't reduce predictable costs

- Affordability

Knowing that someone else pays more, so you pay less
(see taxpayer subsidy, cost shifting, price control)

Actually lowering the cost of providing a service or product (see efficiency, productivity)

Health Reform Glossary

- Your health is priceless

As long as I don't have to pay for it....

And that's why I don't invest in it

- Health reform that pays for itself

Because no one else will pay for it

- Revenue neutral

Somewhere, over the baseline...

It depends on the meaning of "neutral"

Health Reform Glossary

- You can keep what you have
 - If you can ever find it again
 - If you like what it's forced to become
- Portability
 - One man, one choice, one time
 - Unilateral put option, carried on someone else's back
- Guaranteed
 - Until the next election cycle
 - Until our lips move again

Health Reform Glossary

- Comparative effectiveness
 - Proclaiming what might work best in theory
- Comparative efficiency
 - Measuring what's actually done in practice
- It's all about the children
 - They will have to pay later, for what we get today
- Monopoly
 - Private sector – unchecked greed
 - Public sector – unbounded virtue

“Take Your Meds”

One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest

