

## Cost of Various Colorado Health Care Reform Proposals

In 2007, the Colorado Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform hired the Lewin Group, a national health economics analysis firm, to evaluate the costs and effectiveness of four proposals moving towards universal health care. The results were clear:

<b>Proposal</b>	<b># Remaining Uninsured</b>	<b>Increase in Total Health Care Spending*</b>
<b>Better Health Care for Colorado</b>	467,000	\$595 million
<b>Solutions for a Healthy Colorado</b>	138,000	\$271 million
<b>A Plan for Covering Coloradans</b>	109,000	\$1.3 billion
<b>The Colorado Health Services (Single Payer) Program</b>	0	-\$1.4 billion

\* On top of current public/private health spending.

(note: At the time Colorado conducted this study, it had about 792,000 uninsured residents)

## Better Health Care for Colorado

Better Health Care for Colorado would increase access to public programs and to private insurance coverage with low-income subsidies.

Number remaining uninsured	467,000
Increase in total health care spending:	\$595 million

## Solutions for a Healthy Colorado

Solutions for a Healthy Colorado would provide a limited benefit set in the private sector with low-income subsidies, and expands coverage under Medicaid and Child Health Plus.

Number remaining uninsured	138,000
Increase in total health care spending:	\$271 million

## A Plan for Covering Coloradans

A Plan for Covering Coloradans would require private pool participation with low-income subsidies and expanded public programs.

Number remaining uninsured	109,000
Increase in total health care spending:	\$1.3 billion

## The Colorado Health Services (Single Payer) Program

The Colorado Health Services Program is a single payer plan that would provide coverage with comprehensive benefits to all residents of the state. Consumers would have their choice of providers and hospitals within the state.

Number remaining uninsured	0
Increase in total health care spending:	0

(Instead, this proposal actually *cuts* health spending by \$1.4 billion)

Lewin's Technical Assessment of Health Care Reform Proposals (230 page report):

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=BlueRibbon%2FRIBBLayout&cid=1178305890619&p=1178305890619&pagename=RIBBWrapper>