

“SICKO”: Green Party Speakers Release Positions on Single Payer Healthcare

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06.29.07 Salt Lake City –Green Party of Utah member joins in national statement on health care issues

Michael Moore’s new documentary, SICKO, is releasing nationwide today. The Green Party is the only political party with candidates that support universal single payer health care. The Green Party of the United States Speakers Bureau on Health Care has provided quotes from speakers on what looks to be one of the hottest issues of the 2008 campaign season:

"It is a crime that the U.S. is the only industrialized nation that does not guarantee access to health care as a right of citizenship. The U.S. must implement a universal single payer health care system which will provide this basic right to our citizens and take the control of Americans' health out of the hands of the corporations."
-- **Deanna Taylor**, Desert Greens Green Party of Utah and 2006 Green Party candidate for Salt Lake County Council (www.deannataylor.org). "The recently published statistics about the rising rate of poverty in Utah exposes the proof of a dire need for universal single payer healthcare in Utah and in the U.S." Taylor will be attending the Annual Green Party National Meeting in Reading, PA July 12 – 15.

"We now have at least four tiers of health care in our multi-payer, micro-managed health insurance system. These tiers not only wastefully duplicate administrative costs that could be spent on care. They are really health care "castes," which cruelly define the relative worth of Americans among their fellows. That's most un-American." -- **Justine McCabe**, Ph.D., Co-Chair, Green Party International Committee

"We've long been in a state of health care crisis and the individual states need to lead the way because the federal government has not provided the leadership. In Portland, Maine the insurance companies outspent citizens' groups a hundred to one to try and stop a citizens' straw poll referendum supporting a single payer system -- We citizens still won." -- **John Eder**, Member, Maine House of Representatives 2002-2006

"In the global economy it's becoming increasingly harder for businesses to compete when every other industrialized nation in the world has universal health care. Universal single payer health care will provide health care more effectively, more efficiently and for less money." -- **Pat LaMarche**, 2006 Green Party candidate for Governor of Maine and 2004 Green Party Vice-Presidential candidate (read more about Pat's comprehensive health care plan for Maine at <http://www.pat2006.com/issues/healthcare/>)

"As a result of inefficiencies and greed of the health insurance industry, roughly 30 cents out of every health care dollar goes for things other than health care. The cost of this flawed approach continues to soar higher and higher and cannot be maintained. To meet the health care needs of its population in a cost-effective and sustainable manner, the U.S. must adopt the single-payer approach - private health care with public financing." -- **Ron Forthofer**, Ph.D., 2002 Green Party candidate for Governor of Colorado

"The present system of employer-based, private insurance driven health care is keeping Americans from reaching many of their personal and economic potentials. Children are starting public school having never seen a dentist or a personal health care provider. An unhealthy person cannot pursue happiness, cannot enjoy liberty, and may not live a quality of life that reflects a great nation that means to model for all people what a free society achieves. Let us be fair and share our tremendous wealth at least to the extent that everyone has access to good health, nutrition education and opportunity." -- **Nelson Eisman**, 2006 Green Party candidate for Governor of Wisconsin

To book a speaker contact:

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Green Party Speakers Bureau, <http://www.gp.org/speakers/>

"Green for a Change": 2007 Green Party Annual National Meeting Reading, PA, July 12-15
<http://www.gp.org/meeting2007/>

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