

Government Committee Report

## HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS: THE NATIONAL DEBATE AND YOU

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Beginning in the fall 2019, the government and health committees defined a joint project to research and write up our findings about reform proposals for the American health care system. The project's purpose has been to share information with the public so that voters would be better equipped to make educated decisions in the voting booth and beyond. Our report addresses three key questions in the national debate:

1. What are some of the problems facing patients/consumers in the existing system?
2. What would an effective system look like?
3. What factors make reform difficult to achieve?

We organized our research by first addressing aspects of the current system of health care. In our report, we then describe three of the reform approaches that are most discussed in the national debate: private insurance with expanded government-sponsored programs (aka Public Option), a federal government-sponsored plan (Medicare for all; Single payer), and a Republican proposal published by the House Republican Study Committee 2019.

Our summaries are organized according to two perspectives, the **Consumer** perspective (for example, cost, coverage) and the **Policy** perspective (for example, providers, funding source). We conclude our description of the current system and each of the three reform proposals with a brief listing of **Pros** and **Cons**.

All members of the committees participated in this work. We want to make the report available to our members and hope that you may find it useful. In addition, our report may serve as background to an update of the NY State League position on Financing of Healthcare. Local leagues will be able to review the proposed new position in the coming months.

Please go to .....[link] to access an introductory article and the Report.