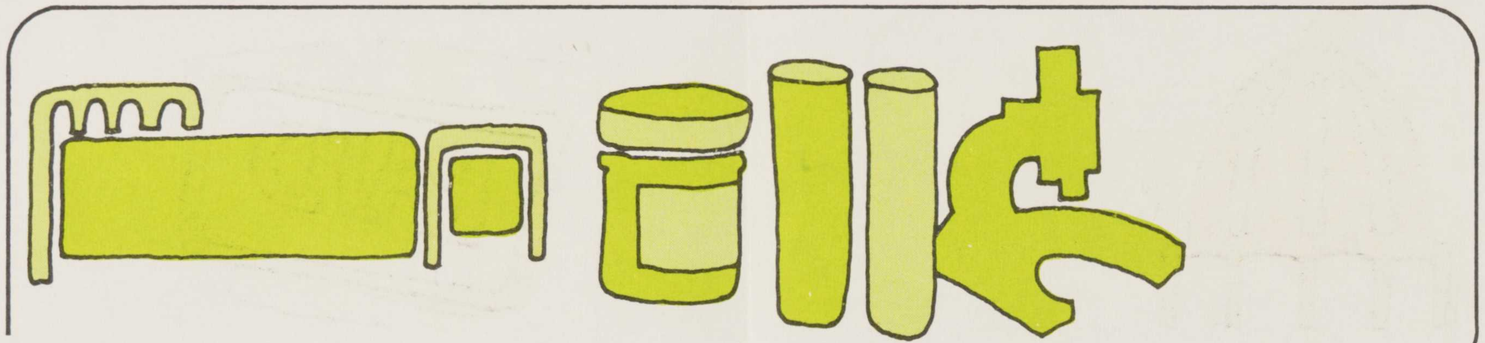

Controlling Costs

It would effectively control costs by forcing hospitals to be more efficient. Doctors would have to negotiate with the Social Security system on what they will be allowed to charge.

Health Security can do the cost control job that thousands of different health insurance companies and union health and welfare trust funds can't do. Only a national health care system can negotiate with every doctor and hospital to keep their charges within reason.

Workers would pay for Health Security just the same way they pay for Medicare—only they would receive health care now and not have to wait until they retire. There would be no increase in the one percent workers are already paying for Medicare, but the base would rise from $13,200 to $15,000.

In other words, the most a worker would pay is $150 a year for complete health care coverage for himself and his family. Many workers now pay, directly or indirectly, three to four times that for less than adequate health coverage.

In the long run, major savings will be achieved by basic changes in the health care system. Health Security is much more than an insurance program. It is a health program.

Funds would be available to support new and better methods of providing health care—such as one-stop medical centers which would have all medical services a family would need under one roof. Some people call these Health Maintenance Organizations or prepaid group practice plans.

Funds would be available to educate more doctors, including the sons and daughters of union members who haven't had an equal opportunity for medical education in the past.

Health Care for People

Health Security would give unions and other consumer organizations, and individual consumers as well, an active role in developing health policy in this country. Now, insurance companies, organized medicine and hospital administrators determine what's best for the people. With Health Security, the people would help determine what's best for themselves.

Health Security would provide better benefits for all union members and their families, and it would make certain that the cost is fair and equitable for all.

Health Security is better for everyone—union members, doctors, hospital administrators, rich and poor. It is the best program for America.

Write your congressman and senators and tell them why workers need Health Security in America and why union members support this legislation.

American Federation of Labor &
Congress of Industrial Organizations
815 - 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

George Meany
President

Lane Kirkland
Secretary-Treasurer

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