

MEDICARE FOR ALL: PART 2

The Sanders Plan

Bernie Sanders has proposed a health care plan that's single-payer, has comprehensive coverage, and requires no copays. [Let's dig in.](#)



THE SHUTDOWN

Again...

A new Congress, another shutdown. This one has a lot in common with the last one, [but with a troubling twist.](#)

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

New year, new members

Our new reps have been sworn in and are at work in Washington. [Test your knowledge](#) about the 116th Congress, the most diverse one to date!



WORTH READING

News and Opinion Pieces We Found Interesting

Our disclaimer: We don't endorse every idea and opinion in the articles below, but that's the point. Finding common ground begins with listening to other points of view.

- **Education -- Does Head Start work?** New research suggests adults who participated in Head Start preschool programs were more likely to stay in school longer and avoid poverty -- via [VOX](#).
- **Poverty -- Social Security payments:** As of September 2018, the \$1,417 benefit paid to the average retired worker is enough to keep an estimated 15 million elderly Americans over the federal poverty line. What happens after this year, when Social Security begins to spend more than it takes in? -- via [USA Today](#).
- **Competitive Markets -- Education and work:** Better education doesn't necessarily translate into better jobs -- via [U.S. News](#).
- **Competitive Markets -- Who wants to be regulated?** New tech sectors like drones, facial recognition, driverless and electric cars, and digital currencies, along with oil companies and financial advisors, are looking for more clarity, and advantage, from government regulations -- via [Axios](#).
- **Environment -- Protection of parks and wildlife refuges:** The Land and Water Conservation Fund provides millions each year for land conservation and outdoor recreation, but its future is up in the air -- via [USA Today](#).
- **Foreign Policy -- Broken promises on trade:** President Trump still hasn't lifted the steel and aluminum tariffs as promised once Canada and Mexico signed a revised trade deal. The delay is damaging the U.S. economy and America's credibility as a trading partner -- via [The Wall Street Journal](#).
- **Immigration -- Canada says, "give me your MBAs, your entrepreneurs":** Canadian immigration policies purposely target the highly skilled in hopes that foreign talent will help fuel economic growth -- via [Bloomberg](#).
- **Immigration -- Is there a crisis at the border with Mexico?** Immigration experts share their views about who's trying to get into the United States, what they want, and the impact of immigration on crime and on economic growth -- via [The Conversation](#).

- **Religious Freedom -- Religion in the 116th Congress:** Congress is more religiously diverse than it's ever been, but still less diverse than the American public -- via [Deseret News](#).
- **Gun Safety -- Universal background check bill:** On the eighth anniversary of the Tucson shooting, House legislators introduced a bill to institute universal background checks for gun purchases -- via [The New York Times](#).
- **Making Government Work -- The shutdown's effect on SNAP:** If the government shutdown goes into mid-February, millions of food stamps recipients could see their food aid cut -- via [VOX](#).



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