

Analysis of HR 676, The United States National Health Insurance Act, according to EQUAL criteria

| <b>Criterion</b>                 | <b>HR 676</b>  |
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| <b>UNIVERSAL COVERAGE</b>        | All residents<br>VA remains independent for 10 years   |
| <b>COMPREHENSIVE BENEFITS</b>    | Primary, acute, chronic, durable medical equipment, long term care, vision, dental, hearing  |
| <b>AFFORDABLE</b>                | No cost-sharing  |
| <b>FAIR AND STABLE FINANCING</b> | Annual operating budgets for operating, capital, providers, health education.<br>Existing funds<br>Income tax<br>Payroll and self-employment tax<br>Tax on stock & bond transactions       |
| <b>CONTROLS COSTS</b>            | No for-profit providers can participate.<br>Global budgets to health institutions<br>No balance billing<br>Negotiated prices for medicines<br>Generic drugs promoted                       |
| <b>QUALITY</b>                   | National Board of Universal Quality and Access<br>State quality and licensing guidelines including staffing<br>Forbids MD reimbursement based on utilization<br>Electronic medical records |
| <b>Accessible</b>                | Automatic enrollment   |
| <b>Appropriate</b>               | Culturally appropriate care. Factors: race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, language.   |

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| <b>PUBLICLY ACCOUNTABLE</b>                                | Regional Directors. State Directors appointed by governor<br><br>Health planning<br><br>Quality Boards include public, providers, users |
| <b>STRONG PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM</b>                         | Intent to stress prevention   |
| <b>EQUITABLE</b><br>Eliminates health disparities          | Intent to reduce health disparities by race, ethnicity, income and geographic region  |
| Eliminates disparities in the health care workforce        | <b>Not addressed</b>  |
| <b>FEASIBILITY</b><br>Does this already work somewhere?    | Medicare program is successful and popular. Covers people over 65 and some disabled in the U.S.   |
| How much of a change from present U.S. system?             | U.S. health care systems are familiar with Medicare. Would greatly reduce the role of private insurers.                                 |
| <b>SUMMARY</b><br>How well does the plan address criteria? | Addresses most criteria.  |
| What does the plan need to improve?                        | More specifics.   |