

Letter: Another reason for national health care

By [LETTERS TO THE EDITOR](#) |

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I appreciated the recent letter by Raymond Lee Schimmel. Mr. Schimmel discussed an article recently published in the New York Times, and the lessons we Americans should draw from it.

The article notes that Australia has had only one tenth as many COVID cases per capita as the United States. This is largely a result of the fact that Australian political leaders, of all parties, provided consistent and united leadership in “following the science” in order to control the pandemic and did not attempt to politicize it.

The article also credits their greater sense of community and concern for others as helping Australians to have better health outcomes than we Americans.

The article mentioned that Australians also benefited from national health insurance which minimized of pre-existing conditions, allowed for co-ordination in the allocation of healthcare resources and reduced anxiety and suffering among the Australian people.

Senator Bernie Sanders, along with 14 co-sponsors has introduced a Bill (The Medicare for All Act of 2022 S.4204) which would establish a similar system of Universal Health Care for the United States, to be phased in over four years. The bill, which would be publicly finance through a system of progressive taxation would cover all medically necessary services and allow for free choice of physician. It would leave us much better prepared for the next pandemic. And alleviate fear anxiety and suffering in the bargain. Think about it .

— Tom Reed, Chico



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