

# Policymaker Platform:

## Sample statements, goals, and solutions for policymakers seeking to center people's needs in their efforts to improve the health care system.



Our current profit-driven health care system isn't meeting people's needs. Far too many people fear going into debt or financial ruin because they or a loved one gets sick. We need to make targeted changes.

All people deserve to have access to quality affordable health care regardless of their health status, ability, social need, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, income, or where they live.

I support targeted and commonsense solutions that put people at the center of our health care system, not profits. We need to preserve the high quality and choices we have in our current system, while making it fairer, more affordable, dependable, personalized, and understandable.

The solutions I will champion have a positive impact on people's lives, bring them peace of mind, and help ensure they don't need to fear going bankrupt when they need care. I support achieving four core goals for the health care system. There are immediately-actionable solutions that help put us on the path to achieving these goals and reflect what people want and need. I want to make sure those solutions are prioritized NOW in our state.

## Four Core Goals for the Health Care System

**GOAL 1:** People have the **certainty** that they can **afford** their health care.

Across the country, cost remains the top concern. People want to get the care they need without fearing that they will go into debt. When it comes to making care more affordable, we focus on solutions that can reduce direct cost to patients while being intentional about the costs to the overall system - making coverage more sustainable and practical long-term. At the state level, eliminating out-of-pocket costs for basic health care services is a critical place to start.

**GOAL 2:** People have the **security and freedom** that **dependable** health care coverage provides as **life changes**.

Far too many people cannot count on their coverage. People are concerned that changes in their job, age, or health status, among other things, could cause them to lose their coverage. We need to ensure that people can afford their insurance plans, and know that it will cover their needs and the needs of their family. At the state level, establishing new low-cost coverage options and expanding eligibility to programs like Medicaid put us on the path to achieving this goal.

**GOAL 3:** People can get the **personalized** care they need, **when and how** they need it.

While people value the high-quality care and ability to make choices that we have in the U.S. health care system, they often don't feel that they are receiving "personalized" care that meets their unique needs or treats them as a whole person. Solutions that we should look at down the line to help achieve this goal include providing support to caregivers of loved ones at home, requiring coverage of mental and physical health to be the same, providing better maternal and newborn care, making it more convenient to get care, and ensuring people can get care virtually.

**GOAL 4:** People experience a health care system that is **understandable** and **easy to navigate**.

The sheer complexity of our system can prevent people from getting the care they need. Too many people feel they are on a solo journey to understand the system and are forced to create hacks that help them make their way through it. Solutions that we should look at down the line to help achieve this goal include providing more transparency for how costs are set and increasing availability of trained people who can help others walk through their health care needs.