

I am an underemployed healthcare employee and, as such, am not eligible to receive health insurance from the company I work for. This company, which shall remain nameless, is a Fortune 500 corporation with wealthy shareholders as well as management personnel. Its no secret that it is this corporation's unofficial policy to avoid providing "costly" benefits to as many employees as possible. This protects their bottom line!

Recently I was diagnosed with Factor V Leiden which is a rare inherited blood disorder. As a result, I now must rely on taking blood thinners (such as warfarin or coumadin) indefinitely as well as regular visits to my doctor to have my INR regulated. If I fail to take my medication and visit my doctor regularly I develop life-threatening blood clots.

Now I will be the first to admit that there are others who have it a lot worse than me. And that is the very point of this message. All of us have circumstances that are unique and relatively serious. If the current administration has its way, a lot of people will lose critical and much needed health coverage.

Why is it that we are the last of the modern industrialized and developed nations on Earth to hold on to the greedy capitalist concept that healthcare is a privilege and not a human right? Its 2019; it is time for us to catch up to the rest of the developed nations and PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR EVERY SINGLE ONE OF ITS CITIZENS!

Russell Pennington