

Power, Politics, and Universal Health Care: The Inside Story of a Century-Long Battle

Stuart Altman, David Shactman

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Essential reading for every American who must navigate the US health care system.

Why was the Obama health plan so controversial and difficult to understand? In this readable, entertaining, and substantive book, Stuart Altman—internationally recognized expert in health policy and adviser to five US presidents—and fellow health care specialist David Shactman explain not only the Obama health plan but also many of the intriguing stories in the hundred-year saga leading up to the landmark 2010 legislation. Blending political intrigue, policy substance, and good old-fashioned storytelling, this is the first book to place the Obama health plan within a historical perspective.

The authors describe the sometimes haphazard, piece-by-piece construction of the nation's health care system, from the early efforts of Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman to the later additions of Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush. In each case, they examine the factors that led to success or failure, often by illuminating little-known political maneuvers that brought about immense shifts in policy or thwarted herculean efforts at reform.

The authors look at key moments in health care history: the Hill–Burton Act in 1946, in which one determined poverty lawyer secured the rights of the uninsured poor to get hospital care; the "three-layer cake" strategy of powerful House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Wilbur Mills to enact Medicare and Medicaid under Lyndon Johnson in 1965; the odd story of how Medicare catastrophic insurance was passed by Ronald Reagan in 1988 and then repealed because of public anger in 1989; and the fact that the largest and most expensive expansion of Medicare was enacted by George W. Bush in 2003.

President Barack Obama is the protagonist in the climactic chapter, learning from the successes and failures chronicled throughout the narrative. The authors relate how, in the midst of a worldwide financial meltdown, Obama overcame seemingly impossible obstacles to accomplish what other presidents had tried and failed to achieve for nearly one hundred years.



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Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book might be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the guide untitled Power, Politics, and Universal Health Care: The Inside Story of a Century-Long Battle can be excellent book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Stacey Ryan:

Precisely why? Because this Power, Politics, and Universal Health Care: The Inside Story of a Century-Long Battle is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap this but latter it will surprise you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such remarkable way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book include such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I have been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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