



JOIN THE HEALTH CARE FIGHT



Why I Support Health Insurance Reform



I'm fighting for universal health care for people like my brother, Dale Robert Loepker. Dale was allowed to die from a treatable infection on Sept. 28, 2004, because he was neglected at two hospitals because he didn't have health care insurance. He was 40 years old. It's our responsibility to make sure this doesn't happen in America.

**Kathleen "Kitty" Loepker
Local 1899
US Steel
Granite City, Illinois**

Where Our Union Stands on Reform:

"You can't even think about negotiating for a wage increase because the whole negotiation is about trying to keep the benefits you already have. That's not just the fault of the employer. It's the fault of a broken health care system that's sucking up all the money." – President Obama

Our union believes health care for all is the civil rights issue of our time. And the moment for action is now. But not all reform plans are the same, and not all are good for working families.

We support a plan with these essential components:

- ✓ Affordable options and reform of insurance practices that will result in health care for all Americans, and increased bargaining power for our members who are forced to sacrifice wages, health and safety improvements, pensions and other important issues because of the rising cost of health benefits.
- ✓ A public option that will lower costs by competing with the private sector and offer coverage for Americans who cannot afford alternatives.
- ✓ No taxation for employer-provided insurance and rules to ensure big employers retain coverage.
- ✓ Shared responsibility by requiring all employers to provide coverage, also known as "pay to play."
- ✓ Significant cost containment to help families, retirees, businesses and our governments.
- ✓ A federally funded catastrophic reinsurance program to help employers and VEBAs that provide benefits for pre-Medicare retirees ages 55-64.

For more information, visit www.usw.org/healthcare

