

Who are we?

[Whole Washington](#) is a grassroots volunteer-run coalition of healthcare professionals, activists, and volunteers organized as a 501(c)(4) working to create a statewide universal public health insurance plan in Washington. We currently have a bill introduced in the Senate ([SB-5204](#)) and are preparing for an initiative to the legislature.

Our healthcare bill ([SB-5204](#) - The Whole Washington Health Trust / WWHT)

- Covers every Washington resident with public nonprofit health insurance (the Whole Washington Health Trust)
- Provides comprehensive coverage including vision, dental, mental health, and reproductive care
- Makes healthcare free at the point of service
- Is ready-to-enact legislation with a financing plan and a transition plan
- Enrollment could begin in 2023 if passed
- Was introduced in the legislature by Senator Bob Hasagawa
- Is cosponsored by senators Kuderer, Liias, Lovelett, Nguyen, Stanford, and Wilson
- Major endorsements include Andrew Lewis, Kshama Sawant, Lisa Herbold, Tammy Morales, and Shaun Scott

How much does it cost?

According to [an analysis by Dr. Gerald Friedman](#), professor of economics at University of Massachusetts Amherst, our universal public system would cost \$9 billion less in total healthcare spending than the \$80 billion dollars per year our existing system is projected to cost.

How do we pay for it? (see links for additional details and exemptions)

- [Employer Payroll Contribution](#) of 8.5% (employers can retain ERISA plans or opt employees into the WWHT)
- [Employee Payroll Deduction](#) of up to 2% of employee's gross pay (employer can cover as a job benefit)
- [Self-Employment Contribution](#) of 2% of Adjusted Net Earnings
- [Monthly premium](#) of up to \$200/month for adults over 19 in households making over 200% of the poverty line
- [Net Long-Term Capital Gains Tax](#) of 8.5%

What is the transition plan?

- Transition lasts until 51% of residents are enrolled in state-managed plans regardless of federal waiver status
- During transition, employees may opt out of employer-based plans and into the WWHT
- Transition plan allows residents to utilize the system before federal waivers are granted
- During transition employers may opt out of health security assessment for employees on ACA compliant plans

How do we pass it?

Whole Washington is currently pursuing both a legislative strategy and an initiative to the legislature strategy.

The legislative strategy

The fastest path to universal coverage would be for the legislature to pass SB-5204, but the bill is currently stalled in the Health & Long Term Care committee. Our previous bill SB-5222 never made it out of committee.

The initiative to the legislature strategy

Whole Washington is prepared to run an initiative to the legislature and would begin collecting signatures in April with a requirement of approximately 350,000 signatures by December 30th. Our volunteers have currently pledged to collect over 215,000 signatures with that number growing every single day.

