



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on May 11, 2019

Generous Joe: More “Free” Healthcare For Illegals Needed

Presidential candidate Joe Biden wants American taxpayers to pay for illegal-alien healthcare. Indeed, he doesn't just want us to pay for their healthcare, he says we are *obliged* to pay for their healthcare.

That's likely because Biden thinks illegals are American citizens, and doesn't much care how many are here as long as they vote the right way.



What Biden didn't explain when he said we must pay for illegal-alien healthcare is how much such beneficence would cost.

Answer: A lot.

The Question, The Answer

Biden's demand that we pay for illegal-alien healthcare answered a question he got on Wednesday in Los Angeles from a reporter who wanted to know whether the “undocumented” deserve a free ride.

[The question was this](#): “Do you think that undocumented immigrants who are in this country and are law-abiding should be entitled to federal benefits like Medicare, Medicaid for example?”

Answered Biden, “Look, I think that anyone who is in a situation where they are in need of health care, regardless of whether they are documented or undocumented, we have an obligation to see that they are cared for. That's why I think we need more clinics in this country.”

Biden forgot to put “free” before clinics, but anyway, the candidate then suggested that Americans who disagree likely have a nasty hang-up about the border-jumping illegals who lie with the facility of Pinocchio when they apply for “asylum.”

“A significant portion of undocumented folks in this country are there because they overstayed their visas,” [he continued](#). “It's not a lot of people breaking down gates coming across the border,” he falsely averred.

Then came the inevitable. “We” need to watch what we say about all those “undocumented folks.”

“The biggest thing we've got to do is tone down the rhetoric,” he continued, because that “creates fear and concern” and ends in describing “undocumented folks” in “graphic, unflattering terms.”

Biden thinks those “undocumented folks” are citizens, as [Breitbart noted](#) in its report on his generosity with other people's money.

In 2014, Biden told the worthies of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce that entering the country illegally isn't a problem, and Teddy Roosevelt would agree.

“The 11 million people living in the shadows, I believe they're already American citizens,” Biden said. “Teddy Roosevelt said it better, he said Americanism is not a question of birthplace or creed or a line of dissent. It's a question of principles, idealism, and character.”

Illegals “are just waiting, waiting for a chance to be able to contribute fully. And by that standard, 11



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million undocumented aliens are already American.”

[Roosevelt also said](#) that “the one absolutely certain way of bringing this nation to ruin, of preventing all possibility of its continuing to be a nation at all, would be to permit it to become a tangle of squabbling nationalities,” but that inconvenient truth aside, Biden likely doesn’t grasp just what his munificence — again, with our money — will cost.

The Cost of Illegal-Alien Healthcare

Biden is right that visa overstays are a big problem: 701,900 in 2018, the [government reported](#). But at least those who overstay actually entered the country legally; border jumpers don’t.

But that’s beside the point.

The real problem is the cost of the healthcare, which [Forbes magazine estimated](#) to be \$18.5 billion, \$11.2 billion of it federal tax dollars.

In 2017, the [Federation for American Immigration Reform reported](#) a figure of \$29.3 billion; \$17.1 in federal tax dollars, and \$12.2 billion in state tax dollars. More than \$15 billion on that total was uncompensated medical care. The rest fell under Medicaid births, Medicaid fraud, Medicaid for illegal-alien children, and improper Medicaid payouts.

The bills for the more than half-million illegals who have crossed the border since the beginning of fiscal 2019 in October are already rolling in.

Speaking at a news conference in March, Brian Hastings, operations chief for Customs and Border Protection (CBP), [said about](#) 55 illegals per day need medical care, and that 31,000 illegals will need medical care this year, up from 12,000 last year. Since December 22, he said, sick illegals have forced agents to spend 57,000 hours at hospitals or medical facilities. Cost: \$2.2 million in salaries. Between 25 percent and 40 percent of the border agency’s manpower goes to the care and maintenance of illegals, he said.

CBP spent \$98 million on illegal-alien healthcare between 2014 and 2018.

Hastings spoke before more than [200,000 illegals crossed](#) the border in March and April.

Photo of Joe Biden: AP Images



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