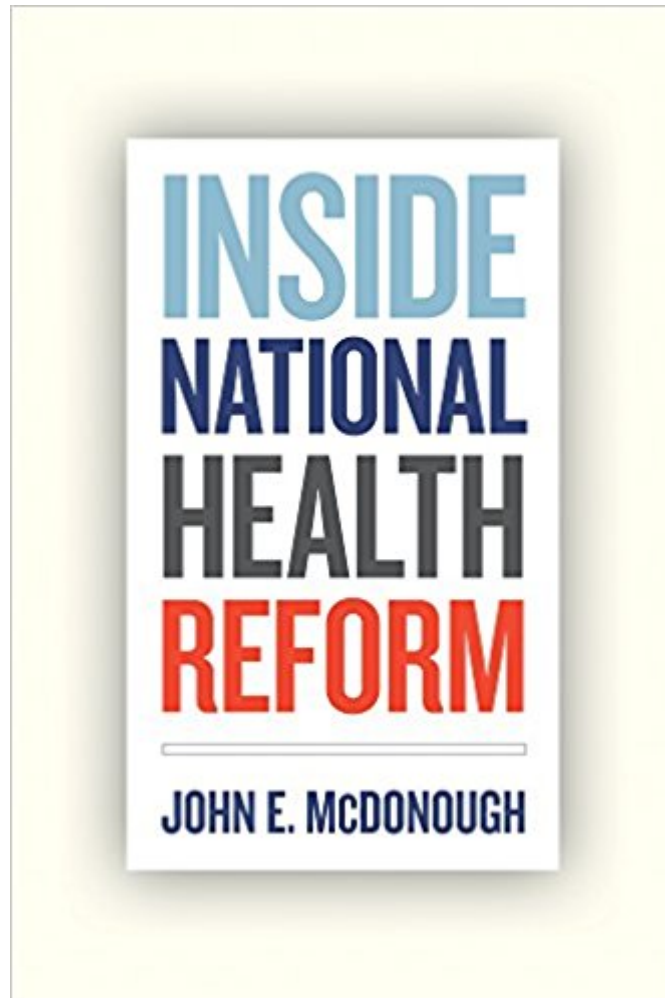




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# Inside National Health Reform



## Synopsis

This indispensable guide to the Affordable Care Act, our new national health care law, lends an insider's deep understanding of policy to a lively and absorbing account of the extraordinary and extraordinarily ambitious legislative effort to reform the nation's health care system. Dr. John E. McDonough, DPH, a health policy expert who served as an advisor to the late Senator Edward Kennedy, provides a vivid picture of the intense effort required to bring this legislation into law. McDonough clearly explains the ACA's inner workings, revealing the rich landscape of the issues, policies, and controversies embedded in the law yet unknown to most Americans. In his account of these historic events, McDonough takes us through the process from the 2008 presidential campaign to the moment in 2010 when President Obama signed the bill into law. At a time when the nation is taking a second look at the ACA, *Inside National Health Reform* provides the essential information for Americans to make informed judgments about this landmark law.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Superb. . . Likely to become required reading for anyone who wishes (or claims) to understand health care in the United States." (Rick Mayes Health Affairs

2011-12-01)" "Read McDonough's book." (The Incidental Economist

2011-09-14)" "McDonough has done the hard work of breaking a large and historic piece of

legislation down into a sober, balanced, thorough, readable, and important book.

Recommended. (Dick Maxwell Library Journal 2011-10-15) "Admirably clear . . . provides the best explanation available, which occupies most of his book, of the many individual components of the ten titles of the final act. (Jeff Madrick New York Review Of Books 2012-06-21) "Unique. . . . Offers a perspective available to few others. . . . Accessible, highly informative, and well worth [the reader's] time. (Paul Van de Water, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities World Medical & Health Policy Jrnl 2013-02-15)

John's firsthand account of the development, passage and enactment of the Affordable Care Act breathes life and sheds light into the history, process and substance of this landmark legislative achievement. Much like the crafting of the legislation itself, the painstaking work to produce this book will serve generations of people and policymakers, regardless of how the final chapter on this law's implementation or repeal is ultimately written. --Chris Jennings, Former Senior Health Care Advisor for President Bill Clinton "John McDonough is the ideal person to help us understand the significance and likely impact of health care reform. His knowledge and wisdom enables him to provide thoughtful insights about how our health care system will be improved by this legislation. Anyone interested in understanding our evolving health care system should read this book." --Ron Pollack, Executive Director, Families USA "John McDonough provides fascinating insight into how the Affordable Care Act really 10 pieces of legislation rolled into one; made it through the labyrinth of Congress to the president's desk. And, more importantly, he explains how reform will benefit just about everyone, and put the U.S. health system on the path to high performance with better access, improved quality, and greater efficiency for decades to come. --Karen Davis, PhD, President, The Commonwealth Fund "John McDonough's unique perspective captures the context and progress of health reform from genesis to conclusion. Of course the odyssey of American health reform is not concluded, but this book will do a great service to understanding how we got this far." --Charles N. Kahn III, President and CEO, Federation of American Hospitals

Inside National Health Reform offers an uncommon combination of both the political process and policy substance of the Affordable Care Act. From his unique perspective, John McDonough provides a first-hand, thoughtful account of the politics surrounding health reform, and supplies the context for how our health care system, and its many problems, came to be. Further, McDonough's

thorough and balanced description of the provisions included in the ACA go far to educate readers on the substance and potential implications of the new law, written in both an entertaining and accessible way. The book revives much-needed optimism about the future of our health care system at a time when we are too quick to forget the historic accomplish and sweeping benefits the ACA.

The author wrote it well with clear inside knowledge but with rose colored glasses. McDonough's facts were clearly outlined and spoke to the mounting issues of ACA in 2017. Within two paragraphs, it was clear ACA was underfunded from the start and a ticking time bomb from 2017 through 2020. Anyone interested in learning about ACA from a historical perspective should put this on their short list.

A lively read written by an academic who played a key role in the legislation we know as the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare.) The author informs the reader that a culture exists where 90% of U.S. physicians accept gifts large and small plus other benefits from pharmaceutical companies and medical device manufacturers. Physicians are given opportunities to earn speaking fees, consulting fees, dinners, lunches, and trips. Such perks raised questions in Congress about physician-prescribing behavior for products sold by manufacturers. The Physicians Sunshine Payments Act of 2002 requires public disclosure of this activity by the medical industry, physicians, and hospitals. This law was expanded under Subtitle A of Title VI of the ACA. Included in the book is a guide to government agencies on the internet providing information about health policy and updates. A great resource!! I purchased "Inside National Health Reform" as a used paperback from .com. delivered the book promptly and in good condition

The ACA (or Obamacare, whatever you choose to call it) is probably one of the most important and controversial topic of discussion in this decade, especially as the country gears up for the next election. A lot has been said about it in the news, discussions, expert opinions etc. As each political party blames the other for things that could've been done better, its important to understand the political process that went behind creation and passing of the bill. I think this book does a great job in explaining that process. I dont have any political affiliations so cant comment on the author's bias. If you are just getting to learn about reforms, and want to read about the history, this is perfect. However, if you are looking for a critique on the reform, you should look elsewhere. Also, if you are looking for a quick read, look elsewhere. This one needs a pretty high level of interest in

understanding the political process.

An excellent book -- very simply, the absolutely best single introduction to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that has yet been written. The author was there when the law was written, and he has told us the whole story of how it came to be, so that we can understand why it is so complex, and yet so incomplete. The chapter by chapter dissection of each Section of the Act is absolutely invaluable for anyone who must really understand it in all its detail, and must actually try to work with it. I cannot recommend this book too highly if you are tired of political trash talk from both sides, and just want to know what ObamaCare is and is not.

This book provides a great review of all things health reform in a straightforward easy paced book. I used it as reference for my public health policy class and it helped me manage all that the ACA has to offer

Before I found this book, I had searched for a while for a reasonably concise explanation of what the Affordable Care Act does and why it does it. This book was just what I needed. Some of chapters are quite dry, as I expected they would be given the subject matter. The book also seems fairly balanced but I am not an expert in the field.

This detailed look at the Affordable Care Act (2010) provides great understanding of the intent of it's 10 titles. In addition, one also gets a clearer understanding of how the legislative process takes place. This act has the potential of having an impact as great as Social Security and Medicare. John McDonough provides an understandable read for a complex subject.

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