Arnold and Sharon Dorsett with their children, Dakota, Zachery and Jessica, back. Though they had insurance, the Dorsetts had to file for bankruptcy because of Zachery’s health care costs.
The chart illustrates the percentage of the economy spent on social benefits in Sweden and the United States.

- Sweden: 35%
- United States: 16%

After-Tax Public Spending on Social Benefits, 2001

|                | Percentage
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After-Tax Public and Private Spending on Social Benefits, 2001

Percentage of the Economy

Sweden: 31%
United States: 26%

The Great Risk Shift in Health Care

Percent covered by private employer insurance


69% 65% 61% 57% 53% 50% 47% 44% 41% 38%

Source: Percentage of private wage and salary workers, 18-64, working at least half-time. Economic Policy Institute, *State of Working America*, 2009
The Great Risk Shift in Pensions (Part I)

Percent covered by private employer pension

52%
51%
50%
50.6%
49%
48%
47%
47%
46%
45%
44%
44%
43%
43%
42%


Private employer-provided pension coverage

Nearly 8 percentage point decline

42.8%
The Great Risk Shift in Pensions
(Part II)

Defined-Benefit Pensions

Defined-Contribution Pensions

Percent of private-sector workers covered


Source: Employee Benefits Research Institute, Center for Retirement Research.
Birth Date: xx/xx/48
Employment Date: xx/xx/03
Options: Lump Sum Payment
Total Share/Units: 11,937.4735
Total Payment Amount: $950.93
Federal Income Tax Withheld: $191.79
Net Distribution Amount: $767.14
Percentage of Working-Age Households at Risk of Falling Short of Pre-Retirement Standard of Living in Retirement

Source: Boston College Center for Retirement Research.

* Including health care costs.
“I am frequently concerned about being laid off.”

Source: Proprietary data courtesy of ISR, http://www.isrinsight.com
Percentage of Working-Age Americans for Whom Family Income Declined by at Least 50 percent

Would you prefer “the stability of knowing your present sources of income are protected” or “the opportunity to make more money”?

There is more risk to my family's financial future than in the past.

There is less risk to my family's financial future than in the past.

“Compared to 10 years ago, do you think Americans today have…”

- 65% More Economic Security
- 19% Less Economic Security
- 16% About the Same Security

“Compared to your parents when they were your age, do you believe today’s economy presents you with…”

Source: AllState/National Journal Poll, April 2009; Results Among Respondents Answering Question.
Average Income
(After taxes; 2005 dollars)

PRIVATE ACCOUNTS WOULD MAKE IT EVEN.
## Support for Redistribution vs. Security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attitude Toward Government Providing Economic Security</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Favor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oppose</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favor</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Support for Redistribution vs. Security
(Information Given About Current Distribution of Income)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attitude Toward Government Providing Economic Security</th>
<th>Attitude Toward Government Redistribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oppose</td>
<td>22.9% vs. 23.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favor</td>
<td>19.9% vs. 33.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Unequal Polarization,”
early 1970s-early 2000s

Source: Poole-Rosenthal, D-W Nominate Scores
Health Care for America
(www.epi.org)

1. **Shared Risk** New national insurance pool offering choice of public insurance or private plans (public plan choice)
2. **Shared Responsibility** Play-or-pay (or similar) requirement to ensure employer contributions (with automatic enrollment)
3. **Individual Responsibility** Means and substantial incentives for uninsured individuals to enroll in new national pool
Projected Budget Deficit (-) or Surplus (+): Including and Excluding Health Programs

Projected Deficit, excluding Medicare and Medicaid and

Projected Deficit, including all expenditures and revenues

Source: Henry Aaron, The Brookings Institution
Support for a public plan is strong across the board, and solid majorities support it.

% Prefer Choice of Private or Public Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 55+</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 55</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independents</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Lake Research Partners survey, January 8-13, 2009, 800 likely voters nationwide
Most voters don’t buy an attack that a public plan will make insurance more expensive due to underpayment and cost shifting. They believe that a public plan will help control health care costs and provide competition.

Which statement comes closer to your own view? (FOLLOW-UP) Do you feel STRONGLY about that, or not so strongly?*

Like Medicare and Medicaid, a new public health insurance plan will reimburse doctors and hospitals at much lower rates, causing many doctors and hospitals to shift higher costs onto people who buy private health insurance.

A public health insurance plan will be able to control overall health care costs for everyone by using its purchasing power to drive competition and lower the prices paid for health care services and prescription drugs.

* Asked of half of sample.
The Public Option and Support for an Individual Mandate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan Description</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>House Swing</th>
<th>Maine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Requiring everyone to buy and be covered by a private health insurance plan”</td>
<td>Oppose 64% to 34%</td>
<td>Oppose 60% to 34%</td>
<td>Oppose 55% to 35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Requiring everyone to buy and be covered by a health insurance plan with a choice between a public option and private insurance plans”</td>
<td>Favor 60% to 37%</td>
<td>Favor 50% to 46%</td>
<td>Favor 55% to 40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Polls of likely voters conducted by Anzalone Liszt Research and Lake Research Partners for Health Care for America Now in mid-September.
“I’m sick of working for the economy. I want an economy that works for me.”