

Rionda Osman-Jouchoux: More industry cash went to Senators who worked on health care bill

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Believe it. If we don't take care of problems associated with money in politics, we won't be able to take care of anything else.

We are now able to read the Senate's Better Care Reconciliation Act that has been crafted by a small group of men behind closed doors. Among all the arguments that will ensue over the next few weeks, one issue may be swept aside: the influence of money with its perception of corruption.

The pharmaceutical and insurance industries have contributed millions of dollars to the electoral campaigns of our representatives over the years. According to a study by Maplight.org, between November 2010 and November 2016, the men who constructed the Better Care Reconciliation Act received, on average, \$214,000 from health insurance and pharmaceutical industries. Four of those senators received more than \$300,000.

Senators who did not participate in that closed-door process received an average of \$115,000 from those industries.

Here's an idea. Those Senators and Representatives who take more than the average amount of money from particular donors should not be allowed to devise legislation affecting those groups.

We can ask: "Then, why would anyone pay such large amounts of money?"

Exactly.

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