Sidney Hawkes

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As an insulin dependent person, I have a chronic condition requiring expenditure of money to maintain a relatively normal life. We need healthcare reform, not just in United States, but in NY.

Before I became chronically unemployed, I quit a job on account of the HMO. My premium and annual deductible cost three times as much out of my paycheck than not having any health coverage. I complained to the healthcare provider who simply said, "You can reenroll in another plan during the next enrollment period, next year". I could not fathom spending more than one hundred dollars every two weeks without any benefit. Moreover, the only way to reach the \$3,000 deductible was to have major hospitalization; I quit the job. They will not hire me.

Since I quit, employment has been less than adequate; existing on welfare has been keeping me alive because I do not have a job to pay for my own healthcare. We need to stop corporations and their investors simply looking for a profit; it is the same mentality for those fossil fuel companies depleting a rapidly dwindling finite resource. In the long run, healthier New Yorkers will continue to help those employing them.