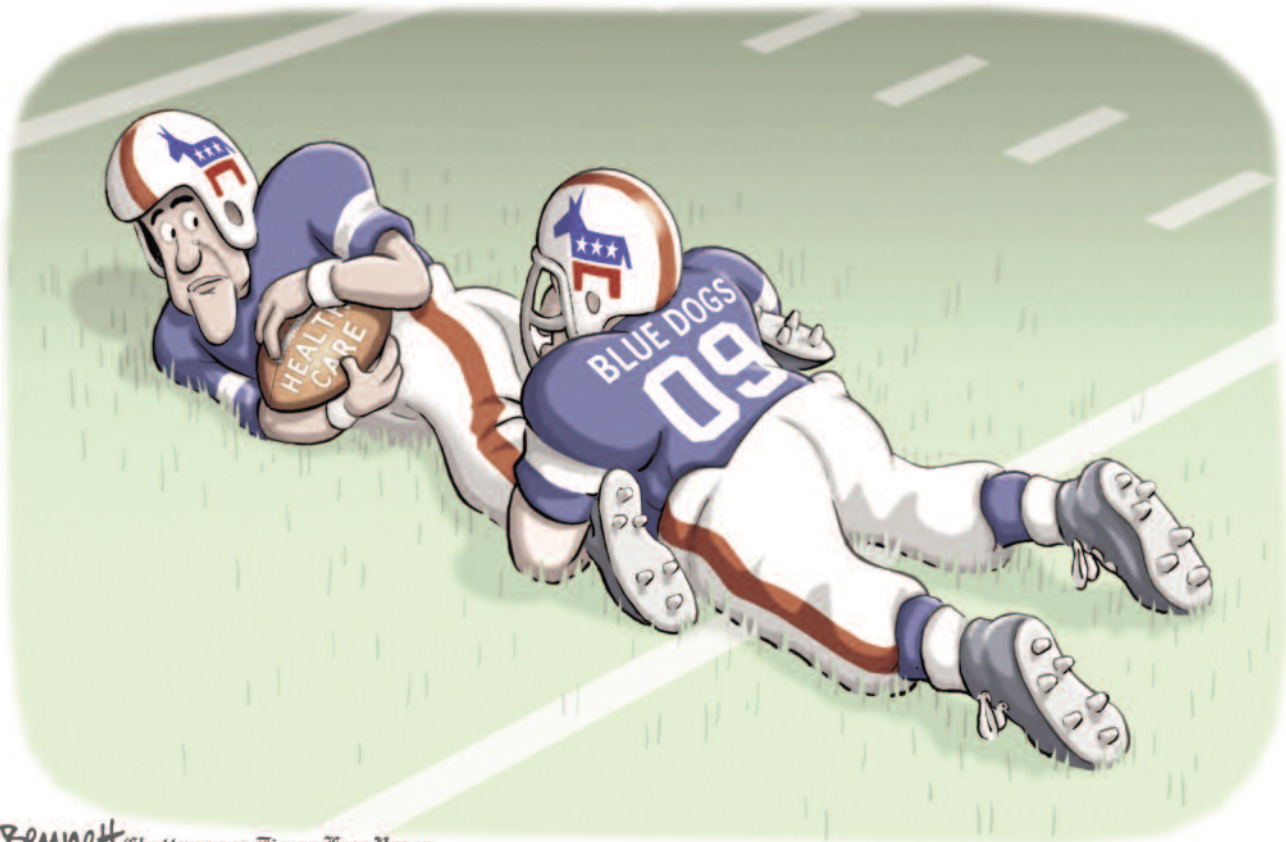


Cartoons for the Classroom

Presented by NIEonline.com and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)



Cartoon Courtesy Clay Bennett / Chattanooga Times Free Press

Teaming up on health care?

Talking points

1. In order to understand the point Clay Bennett's cartoon is making, you need to understand symbols he uses, understand the football metaphor and know the context of the issue. Start with the symbols. What "team" is being portrayed? How do you know?
2. Both players are on the same team. But the Blue Dogs are stopping progress on health care legislation. Why would a player on the same team want to stop "forward progress?"
3. So is the football game over? Or is this just one play during the game with the final outcome still in doubt? Is the artist indicating that the effort to reform health care is over?

Additional resources

Association of American Editorial Cartoonists
<http://editorialcartoonists.com/>

More by Clay Bennett
<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/cartoons/>

Between the lines

The 52-member Blue Dog coalition is a group of moderate and conservative Democratic Party members of the U.S. House of Representatives. First formed in 1995. The Blue Dogs promote, among other things, fiscal conservatism and accountability.

-- Wikipedia

Despite strong majorities in both chambers of Congress, Democrats have been unable to reach an agreement on overhauling the nation's healthcare system.

-- CNN