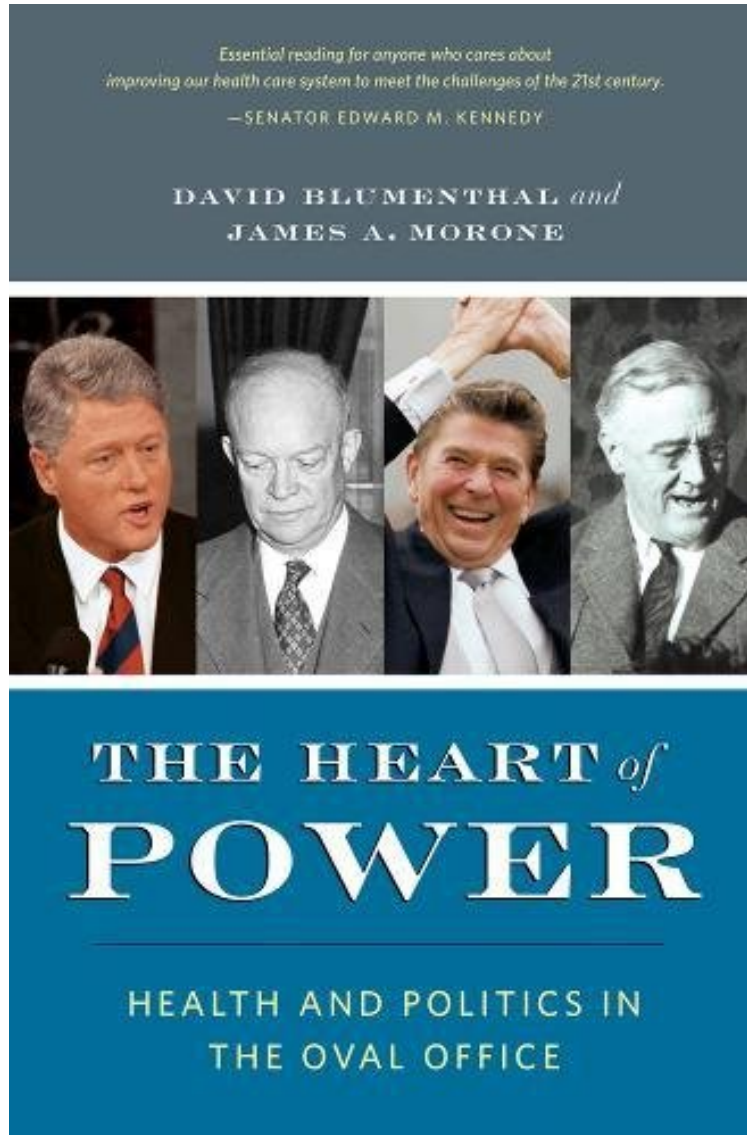


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The Heart of Power: Health and Politics in the Oval Office

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David Blumenthal, James Morone : The Heart of Power: Health and Politics in the Oval Office before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Heart of Power: Health and Politics in the Oval Office:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Timeline: Roosevelt to H. Bush By Harry K. Youmans From Roosevelt to H. Bush had active roles in the development of National Health Insurance. How did their childhood and adulthood backgrounds influence their presidential decisions to maintain a 70 year development of Health

Insurance? Blumenthal gives a concise biography of each president as well as the individual managerial style to navigate the governmental complexities of politics and policy development. Tune up your highlighter! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding! By O. Fernandez Easy-to-read, thorough account of health insurance legislation, from FDR to W. It provides much needed historical, leadership perspective to our current health care mess. A must if you're serious about national policy, enjoy politics. I went through it in two nights. Very well written. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book By Christie I ordered this book for a Health politics course and it is an interesting read. It really delves into the Hermeneutics of Health Care Policy.

Even the most powerful men in the world are human they get sick, take dubious drugs, drink too much, contemplate suicide, fret about ailing parents, and bury people they love. Young Richard Nixon watched two brothers die of tuberculosis, even while doctors monitored a suspicious shadow on his own lungs. John Kennedy received last rites four times as an adult, and Lyndon Johnson suffered a "belly buster" of a heart attack. David Blumenthal and James A. Morone explore how modern presidents have wrestled with their own mortality and how they have taken this most human experience to heart as they faced the difficult politics of health care. Drawing on a trove of newly released White House tapes, on extensive interviews with White House staff, and on dramatic archival material that has only recently come to light, *The Heart of Power* explores the hidden ways in which presidents shape our destinies through their own experiences. Taking a close look at Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Herbert Walker Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush, the book shows what history can teach us as we confront the health care challenges of the twenty-first century.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . In this engrossing text, the history of American health-care policy, from the New Deal to the Medicare Modernization Act of George W. Bush, becomes a frame through which the authors illuminate the leadership qualities of late-20th-century presidents in the arena of domestic affairs. The authors present biographies of presidents from FDR on, investigating potential influences (e.g., heart attacks, abusive parents, deceased siblings) on their attitudes toward health policy. Blumenthal, a Harvard Medical School professor, and Brown University political scientist Morone (*The Democratic Wish*) draw on White House telephone tapes and memos in a laudatory chapter on Johnson's role in passing Medicare, and reserve their harshest criticism for Jimmy Carter, whose administration unwittingly killed the late effort at health reform. The authors offer evenhanded critiques and conclude with lessons for future chief executives about the importance of political savvy, economic flexibility and popular appeal in determining the success of health-care initiatives. More than an excellent primer on American health policy, the book offers a thorough, incisive look at the presidency as an institution and the men who have occupied the office. (Aug.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. A riveting history of health-care politics.