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# Side Effects and Complications: The Economic Consequences of Health-Care Reform

Casey B. Mulligan

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#1069091 in eBooks 2015-10-20 2015-10-20 File Name: B014RWV25S | File size: 57.Mb

**Casey B. Mulligan : Side Effects and Complications: The Economic Consequences of Health-Care Reform**  
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Side Effects and Complications: The Economic Consequences of Health-Care Reform:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Why the shiny paper? By Mark Spradley Difficult reading with small print on shiny, reflective paper. Is the glossy paper intended to put this book in the high-price textbook market? I can't

comment on the content yet. I got halfway through and my eyes hurt too much to continue. A week later . . . I increased the stars from two to four, and would have given five except I hate reading on shiny paper. This book is difficult reading. I'm not an economist, but with a good deal of effort, I am able to follow the symbolic notation. I've learned some important things about the ACA from it. As the ACA rolls out, many self-employed people and small business owners I know are freaking out, and it really helps to understand what's happening in the detailed terms presented here.

The Affordable Care Act will have a dangerous effect on the American economy. That may sound like a political stance, but it's a conclusion directly borne out by economic forecasts. In *Side Effects and Complications*, preeminent labor economist Casey B. Mulligan brings to light the dire economic realities that have been lost in the ideological debate over the ACA, and he offers an eye-opening, accessible look at the price American citizens will pay because of it. Looking specifically at the labor market, Mulligan reveals how the costs of health care under the ACA actually create implicit taxes on individuals, and how increased costs to employers will be passed on to their employees. Mulligan shows how, as a result, millions of workers will find themselves in a situation in which full-time work, adjusted for the expense of health care, will actually pay less than part-time work or even not working at all. Analyzing the incentives—or lack thereof—for people to earn more by working more, Mulligan offers projections on how many hours people will work and how productively they will work, as well as how much they will spend in general. Using the powerful tools of economics, he then illustrates the detrimental consequences on overall employment in the near future. Drawing on extensive knowledge of the labor market and the economic theories at its foundation, *Side Effects and Complications* offers a crucial wake-up call about the risks the ACA poses for the economy. Plainly laying out the true costs of the ACA, Mulligan's grounded and thorough predictions are something that workers and policy makers cannot afford to ignore.

"The supply side is the great neglected side of the health-care debate, and Mulligan has written the best book on it to date."