



EQUAL Health ♦ *Equitable Quality Universal Affordable*

Save Health Reform - Expand Medicare for All

April 6, 2009

Dear President Obama,

Thank you for taking leadership towards winning national health reform. We want to help. We are asking you and our members of Congress:

1. **Give us an American solution we know and trust. Expand Medicare** to make sure everyone in America is covered by this popular, affordable, publicly financed and publicly administered program.
2. We have learned a lot since the last time. **Special interests can't scare us** about government-run health care, and losing our choices. Too many of us have to struggle for the care we deserve when we're sick, even if we are insured. We know that those of us who are covered by Medicare can **choose our own doctor and hospital**, and we do not lose coverage when we get sick. That is the choice we care about.
3. **Expand Medicare benefits** to address all our needs for preventive, acute, and long-term care, including reproductive health services, prescription drugs, dental, mental health, vision, and alternative and complementary medicine.
4. Stick with your plans **to let our doctors and nurses know which treatments are most effective, and to encourage team practices**. We all deserve the best quality care.
5. **Thank you for investing in public health. It is time to make sure all our social and economic policies make us healthier**, from the environment to education, from the dinner table to our transportation systems.

We know that keeping the coverage we have is not a real choice for many in today's economy. **Covering everyone under a publicly financed, publicly administered program like Medicare** slashes administrative costs from 30% to 3% of the health care dollar, and saves money for individuals, employers, and the government.

Respectfully, Over 1,000 Americans for EQUAL Health Reform

*EQUAL Health includes everyone who supports **Equitable, Quality, Universal, Affordable** Health care. We include **women**, who still earn less than men, depend on health care in our reproductive years and later in life, are the majority of caregivers, and find that private health insurance plans charge us more while often denying us care and coverage. We include **public health advocates**, who understand that universal coverage for health care is one of the social and economic factors that create healthy and equitable communities.*

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Karl	Hamner	AL	Too many Americans are uninsured or under- insured. This has a terrible toll on individual health and economic productivity and erodes the viability of all medical care. Please ensure universal coverage now.
Catherine	Hunt	AL	My daughter has been very ill and needs good and well-coordinated medical care so she can get well and go back to work and take care of her child. She has not been able to get care, so she is still unable to return to work and unable to provide for her child. We need affordable, single payer health care in our country.
Scotty	Niswonger	AR	Health care is very important to our future and generations into the future
Jacqui	Ceballos	AZ	
Bob	Cooper	AZ	
eric	henley	AZ	
Juliana	Kling	AZ	Health care should be a right, not a privilege. I went into medicine to help people. I can't do that if Americans are unable to access the health care system.
Anandani	Nellan	AZ	
Kathryn	Orzech	AZ	We are some of the lucky ones who have health insurance but it consumes a large portion of our income. Please help those who have no coverage and we who pay too much by pursuing affordable, universal care.
Whitney	Sheen	AZ	As a future physician and number one advocate for my patients, I want a publicly financed, privately delivered American health care system that guarantees quality health care to ALL Americans. Please let it be now.
DALE	ADAMS	CA	
Jane	affonso	CA	My nonprofit is almost put out of business by our increase in premium costs. Our insurance broker is doing just fine. Why do we endure this system or consider any system that does not allow universal, AFFORDABLE, equitable health care.
Felix	Aguilar, MD	CA	
Maral	Ahmadi	CA	
Pono	Aiona	CA	As a healthcare provider I am deeply aware as to what insurance carriers do to their insured. The system needs to change to ensure that coverage is fair and equitable to all and to take the "profit quotient" out of the equation. As long as the system is profit driven, insurance carriers will always fight providers for coverage and deny hard working folks care.
Diane	Akers	CA	Our health care system is and has been broken for some time. It will take bold and dramatic directions to fix it. Our current non-system is an embarrassment to this country.
Ellen	Alkon	CA	
Adele	Amodeo	CA	Without access to quality affordable and effective health care, and the social and economic underpinnings that promote good health, people cannot be productive. They will not be able to take advantage of new jobs or tax breaks. Now, more than ever, the elimination of health inequities assumes greater importance in restoring economic stability to our populace.



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Robert	Applebaum	CA	Since I converted a major medical plan I designed, at the Amer. Museum of Natural History, to a self-insured plan in 1991, I have been expecting the creation of a national health plan. It is just stupid to continue to fund health care with risk insurance policies. It is killing tens of thousands of our citizens, annually, strangling our economy and wasting the talents of all. I beg you to end the institutional greed born of an accident of history. We need single payer, now. The talents of employees of major insurance could be used for their management skills. They deserve to be paid for their services, not for deciding "who shall live and who shall die." Please honor the integrity and intelligence of Representative John Conyers and pass HR 676. The single payer movement is expanding exponentially, nationally. Many states have their own single payer legislation. In CA we passed a single payer bill twice. Our Governor, in collusion with the insurance companies, vetoed it twice. In this case it is true that the Governor is not the solution. The Governor is the problem!
Anjali	Asrani	CA	
Mary	Ayers	CA	I have lived in Canada and in England and have experienced as an RN just how important health care for all has been Mary
Aiko	Backhus	CA	
Rosemary	Bacy	CA	
Carol	Bailey	CA	Reforming the health insurance industry is not an option. Profit as motive for denying needed health care is not consistent with providing needed health care as determined by a medical provider and patient. Single payer, doctor-patient health care is the ONLY option. It is the ONLY plan!
Lowell	Banks	CA	I emigrated from Canada many years ago but still have many relatives living there. Canada and the U.S. used to be twins on public-health measurements. Now after 35 years of Canadian universal health care, Canadian Infant Mortality is two thirds that of the U.S, Life Expectancy is higher, and the Per Capita Spending is half that in the U.S. A member of our family, in this country, having been hospitalized without benefit of health insurance had to sell their home to pay medical bills. This is the experience of many of the 45 million people in this country that cannot afford health insurance. I have had many relatives cared for under the Canadian system and I don't know anyone who had to sell their home to pay their medical bills. Yes, Canada has some problems with their delivery system; some may have to wait for elective surgery while the well to do will come across the border to be first in line. But overall they have a pretty good system and don't have to go bankrupt to receive medical care. As to my wife and I we are both seniors in our late 70s, the cost of our insurance (Medicare, Blue Cross Supplemental, and Long Term Care) along with out of pocket costs runs at least twenty-five percent of our net income. We have tried to plan ahead for medical care but with the escalating costs I don't know how long we can keep it up and still cover other expenses. Please support the single payer system.
Jeronimo	Banuelos	CA	We need to evolve and do the right thing. We need to ensure that everyone has access to health care. We need health care reform now. My son was denied rehabilitation services by my HMO which contributed to his becoming a runaway.
Al	Barkow	CA	

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William	Barnettler	CA	Our health system, run for profit not general health has been a disaster for those w/o resources. Please let us get to a health system run for the people, not the health insurance vendors.
Joy	Barnes	CA	
Roberta	Barnes	CA	Health care costs could be significantly reduced if health care insurers were not needed to take there percentage off the top.
Tiffany	Barnes	CA	As a registered nurse, I've seen too many patients suffering needlessly because they don't have enough insurance coverage to receive the right treatment. It is inhumane to ask health care workers to pick and choose who to treat based on their insurance. The answer is Medicare for all, not "universal care" in which everyone has to pay out of pocket for health care or receive a tax penalty.
Elizabeth	Barron	CA	
Richard	Bayard	CA	
Joan	Bazar	CA	A health emergency should not cause a family to lose its savings or its home. Drop the private insurance companies -- they skim off 30% of the funds while seeking ways to reduce payments to physicians and care to policy holders.
john	beeston	CA	My 28 years receiving Medicare services has been excellent. All Americans should have access to a similar system of comprehensive health care
Libby	Benedict	CA	
Holly	Bennett, RN	CA	Finally, Medicare for all if they want it. Let those who want their private insurance to pay away, but PLEASE let us have Medicare for All. As an RN, I concur that this is the best way to provide insurance for all. AND, we can all pay a minimal amount to cover expenses. Thank you, thank you for being a President for all of us.
Susan	Bergman	CA	Without a single payer financed health care system and the continued reliance on the insurance industry whose first priority is money and not health, the noble goals you are attempting to achieve are impossible. You know this as well as I. Don't let their money and lobbyists buy you off!!!
Lisa	Berkelhammer	CA	
Ruby	Bernstein	CA	Having spent most of my savings on home care this past year because of infection following a fractured hip, I am indeed interested in improving our health care system.
melanie	berzon	CA	
Rajiv	Bhatia	CA	Let's take the approach that provides the most equitable distribution of cost and services, choice for consumers. Health care is a right we can afford for all residents. A public insurance plan can lower costs, limit irrational care, and provide consumers choice.
Iris	Biblowitz	CA	
Iris	Biblowitz	CA	In San Francisco, as elsewhere, we're going through devastating cuts to public health. Many people will have to wait longer for crucial appointments, may not be able to get mental health care at all, while HMOs will be focused on profits and the gap between CEOs and workers will keep on growing exponentially. Please stop this madness. Iris Biblowitz,RN

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Kristin	Blanchard	CA	Everyone deserves the same quality of healthcare regardless of employment status or insurance terms. Get healthcare, including pharmaceuticals, out of the profit-driven private sector!
Edward	Blanchard	CA	My wife has MS and if I retire to Medicare and she lost her job, she would not be covered for her very expensive medicine because insurance could not make money on her. Please see that pre-existing conditions are covered in any scheme that you support.
Richard	Boberg	CA	"Decent health care" should be in the constitution. Nobody should deny health care to some stranger needing first aid on the street. Why would we deny health care as a public responsibility?
Charlotte	Bolinger	CA	We need to control health care costs, and Single-payer is the way to do that. These savings will benefit individuals, private businesses, and all levels of governments that provide health care insurance to their employees.
Susan	Bonney	CA	
Denah S.	Bookstein	CA	Please use this moment in history, Mr. President, to return health care to CARE for the Health of the People. Layers of bureaucracy and profit motives have been a major factor in making health care unattainable and unaffordable for millions of people as well as a barely sustainable luxury for millions more.
annie	borgenicht	CA	I am a disabled nurse and see too many people with no health care. Some who put off care until it's too late to be treated. The insurance companies rule what type of care people have and it's not their job. If we put the money paid into insurance companies into health care given directly to people it would much more humane and sensible.
Scott	Boswell	CA	
Mary	Boyle	CA	You are on target, President Obama. Stay focused on our/your goals. Health care in the condition it is today is causing people to die. A cousin who had a chronic ailment and lost his job couldn't get healthcare and didn't want to suffer. He is dead. No one wants to hire Americans because our healthcare is too costly for employers as well as us. People are not tolerating, thriving and surviving the way U.S. healthcare is now. It has got to change. Keep up the good work. Mary Boyle
lynn	Bragg	CA	
elena	brauchy	CA	I lost my job on 01/30/09. I'm uncertain with my coverage. Would I face a monetary burden if I get health care? What if I can't pay Cobra anymore?
D	Braun	CA	
Ida	Braun	CA	As a retired pediatrician, I have been waiting for decades for single payer health care. Finally you can help make it happen! PLEASE don't let this opportunity pass.
Joe	Brenner	CA	
Robert	Britton	CA	In this period of economic recession more and more middle class Americans will be losing their jobs. For most people that means losing your healthcare. For other working Americans, contracting a serious illness such as cancer can mean losing your job, losing your healthcare and bankruptcy. In order to stabilize the economy, we need to provide a healthcare safety net independent of employment.

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Roberta	Brooks	CA	Frankly, I would prefer a national health service along the lines of England but I'd settle for this.
Tanya	Brown	CA	
Barbara	Browne	CA	Listen to the people who have been on this issue for years. Allow Single Payer Healthcare.
Fred	Buderi	CA	- Costs of health care for retirees is affecting our ability to provide health care for all people; - Corporate and municipal budgets are strained and weakened by the costs of health care for employees; - I see families in my town who are dependent on free clinics for basic health care but who do not have access to more sophisticated/thorough care; - this is something we can do that will strengthen the entire country.
Pamela	Budge	CA	Single payer healthcare would get the insurance companies out of the mix and allow the dollars to go to the doctors so they could give quality care to all residents. It would also make healthcare more affordable so families could eat and pay for their housing. Quality of Life!!!!
Maria	Bulanadi	CA	Health is wealth!
John	Butler	CA	As one of the millions who lost a job recently, I can only afford COBRA so long - and it's not a good plan, so even with it, I could easily go broke if I got sick. Friends from Canada can't believe our system is so bad - and I'm convinced it's corrupt as well.
J	C	CA	
ursula	cabalzar	CA	If I loose my job, I will not have health insurance, also I would be denied or would have extraordinary high payments, as I am a Diabetic. Health Insurance companies are paying some of the highest salaries and bonuses - we should have a not for profit system that accepts everybody.
Andrew	Calman	CA	I am a doctor in a low-income area. Medicare does a far better job of insuring their health needs than the private sector, at lower cost.
Paul	Canin	CA	We have too many of our citizens who have NO health care. They use the Emergency room at a hospital for their care. They have no preventive care so when they go to a hospital for emergencies it is very expensive for the system.
Karen	Carson	CA	This is of grave concern to so many people I talk to every day. This definitely seems like the best solution.
Melissa	Casey	CA	In May of 2008 my health care premiums rose to amount I was no longer able to afford. I now have no health insurance. Please help me.
Lisabeth	Castro-Smyth	CA	
Julia	Cato	CA	
Phyllis	Ceaser	CA	I am on Medicare and I want a plan like Medicare for my sons and their families. Private health insurance has been a failure. People are dying because they cannot get the care they need because of the expense. Let's finally get smart and fix the problem.
Chung-Wei	Chan	CA	I am currently a MPH student at UCLA in the Department of Health Services. A major part of our course work is to evaluate all the different health systems in the world. In the end, the single payer system has been shown consistently over and over to be the most efficient and cost-effective system.

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Myron	Chapmana	CA	Healthcare costs must be contained. Single payer is the only way to contain costs. Therefore, we need Single Payer Now. We cannot afford to send 30% of all healthcare costs to private insurance company profits. @
Susan	Charles	CA	We need single payer health care. We are all vulnerable with our system now because we might lose our job.
Mark	Charles	CA	It is about time we can offer affordable health insurance to the people of our country. I owned my own business for 23 years and we insured all of our employees and their families. Each year our premiums would increase at an astronomical rate and made it tougher to support our employees. I think the insurance companies are driven by the bottom line and not their CUSTOMER needs. Please get this passed.
Harriet	Chase	CA	
Khim	Choong	CA	
Kwan	Chun	CA	As a primary care physician, I see everyday how much waste the private health insurance industry creates and how much harm this causes for patients.
Luc	Cl	CA	
Henry	Clarence	CA	My family finds that the present for profit healthcare system unaffordable, furthermore it excludes insuring those with any pre-existing medical issues.
Norie	Clarke	CA	What better way for you to efficiently help our people in this time of economic crisis than to expand publicly funded Medicare and relieve them of the worry of whether they will be able to afford healthcare whether they are employed or not. Just knowing that improves our health from the get go. Norie Clarke
Joyce	Clyde	CA	
Ranya	Cohen	CA	
Michael	Colburn	CA	Every person's health should be one of the highest priorities of a government. It SHOULD NOT be a money making enterprise.
Jenny	Cole	CA	
Peter	Conn	CA	This may be our last chance to fix the system before it collapses, hurting everybody, not just the uninsured. We want Medicare for everyone; we want care, not insurance plans; we want choice of doctor, not choice of insurance policies.
Diana	Conti	CA	
margaret	copi	CA	Health care - YES. Insurance companies - NO. If we stop the insurance industry skimming \$400 billion per year we can cover all the uninsured AND stop charging premiums/copays and deductibles in our expanded Medicare for all.
kelly	corbett	CA	This is important to me because I know too many people who do not have health insurance and are scared about what might happen to them.
Elaine	Corn	CA	Dear President Obama, They've got all the stories they need. They're up their ears in stories after all these years. What should happen now is the actual reform. I'm done with stories. I want action. Elaine Corn 2122 Gunn Road Carmichael CA 95608



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Jenifer	Cost	CA	I am so grateful for Medicare. The rest of the US population should not have to wait until they are 65 to access affordable medical care. I also believe that all health insurance should be non-profit or limited profit.
James	Cowan	CA	Excluding the "improved Medicare for all" option from the current health care discussion short-changes the American people. It opens the possibility for retaining the worst features of the current health care situation, which puts profit before people. There are now two bills in Congress that deserve your support: the United States Universal Health Care Act (HR 676), and the newly-introduced American Health Security Act (S. 703).
Suzanne	Cowan	CA	American families are paying more and more for health care while its costs continue to rise and quality continues to fall. The only "compromise solution" that is certain to be acceptable to the insurance industry, pharmaceutical giants and their lobbyists is no solution at all--just more of the same. We can no longer afford this dysfunctional, wasteful and inequitable system. I urge you to take the courageous step of standing up to the corporate healthcare interests and leading the fight for a truly universal, publicly-financed program that will save billions of dollars and give the American people the care they desperately need. Thank you!
THOMAS J.	CROWE	CA	
Kristina	Crowe	CA	
John M.	Dale	CA	
Carol	Dalrymple	CA	Single payer is the choice that costs you less and gives you more, whether you are an individual, a family, an employer or a local, state or federal agency or government.
Paul	Davis	CA	
Rachel	Davis	CA	This should be as fundamental as government owned and run police forces, fire departments, social security, schools, etc. It was meant to happen during the New Deal. So let's take care of our people.
Richard	Dawson	CA	If we have the means to wage a trillion-dollar war against two countries that have done us no harm, then surely we must have what it takes to provide healthcare for all. If not, then stop the wars immediately and redirect that money towards health care. Since health care, unlike war against a non-existent enemy, is a necessity rather than extravagance, we need to ensure that the dollars spent are spent effectively. Study after study shows that a single payer system, eliminating the parasitic insurance companies from the picture, is the most cost-effective way to provide health care. Consequently, we as taxpayers and health care consumers want a single payer system, not a Massachusetts-style insurance company preservation plan.
Mary	de la Vega	CA	
Rosylin	Dean	CA	
Lynnette	Delgado	CA	



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Kathleen	Densmore	CA	I was hit with cancer when I had no health insurance. My parents could not afford quality health care. I've volunteered in hospitals where I've witnessed the lack of quality care people receive, especially those with less means. When individuals or families have to draw from their own finances in order to get quality health care, the evidence is clear as to who suffers.
Robert	Derbin	CA	
Leslie	Derbin, MPH, PhD	CA	
ums	devi	CA	I am supposed to be in a slightly high risk breast cancer level and I have not had a mammogram in years because I was able to qualify for free care for breast cancer patients in another state but since I moved to California I do not qualify, so I have not gone for years. The tests they do and surgery related biopsies are extremely expensive. I cannot afford. My husband has two jobs, neither of which provides any health care nor retirement. I also have very high blood pressure with no meds do to costs. Is this America?
Ilene	Diamond	CA	I'm a psychologist and see the need for comprehensive health care for all. Many friends are uninsured. I pay through the nose for my own coverage.
Liliana	Diaz	CA	
Julianna	Dickey	CA	The health insurance industry has been in control too long and we see where it has gotten us. It is time for the people to be considered and for health care to assume the position of a right, not a commodity, affordable to some and not others!
Roberta	Diephouse	CA	Public health is more important today than ever with the way the economy is. I as a senior citizen and without a job find it more important than ever to be able to get the medical attention needed without paying a bundle, which I do not have.
Angela	DiLaura	CA	
Alexis	Dinno	CA	I wish to see a single-payer health care system for all Americans for these reasons: * 100% coverage (the current system fails with this) * choice of providers (the current system fails with this) * reduction of current costs (see http://pnhp.org) * improved risk/dollar efficiency through building the largest risk-pool (any mixed system must fail in this regard) Thank you, Alexis Dinno
Ellen	Doerfer	CA	To provide health care to those who are excluded because of pre-existing conditions
Niu	Dong	CA	I strongly support the concept of "Universal Health Insurance". Companies buy insurance for their employees can pay to the government, not pay to the money making Health Insurance Companies.
Anne	Donnelly	CA	
Meghan	Doran	CA	We would greatly reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies if women had access to affordable, quality healthcare. This includes, of course, providing women with cheap birth control that can be easily accessed at any pharmacy or clinic, regardless of insurance carrier. If you want to rid this country of culture wars, you must enact policy that makes sense fiscally, pragmatically and morally. Stop putting women's health at risk by not stemming health care costs that are spiraling out of control. Thank you, President Obama.

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Carole	Dorshkind	CA	Good healthcare is a right in a civilized society. There is no room for insurance companies to make profits, costing the society as a whole and extra 28-30%. We need a public option, President Obama, and a right for states to have their own single-payer plans - the most economical and moral option.
Jacquolyn	Duerr	CA	This is a small step toward universal access, and a big step toward full recognition of health care as a human right.
Billie	Dungan	CA	Universal health care will improve life for everyone
Craig	Dunkerley	CA	Medicare for all will not only be a humane and sensible thing to do for citizens, it will also make our companies more competitive in the global economy.
Diana	Dutton	CA	This is the most efficient, cost-effective, equitable and convenient way to provide needed health care to everyone.
Joan	Edelstein	CA	As a maternal and child health nurse for 40 years as well as a Professor Emeritus and a school nurse, I know how crucial this is for the health of ALL in our country. Healthy adults/children work, learn, and contribute to society far more effectively than those who are not healthy. Stop the inequities, reduce the disparities.
maria	einaudi	CA	
Anne	Eisenberg	CA	The costs of health insurance keep American business from being competitive and Americans from seeking and receiving needed care. Every 1st world country has universal health care; we should too. Health care is a right, should not be a profit making enterprise of insurance companies.
Kay	Eisenhower	CA	I want my son and his wife to have the same affordable access to healthcare that I do...and I want to make sure my access lasts the rest of my life as well.
Galen	El-Askari	CA	
Karen	Elcaness	CA	You have said that there is a "legacy" system of private health insurers, chiefly from employment-based policies, that you wish to preserve for those who utilize it. However, businesses are unable to maintain their health insurance programs for employees due to the skyrocketing costs of the health insurance industry, resulting in mega-profits to the latter. (Of course the growing population of the unemployed are left without any coverage.) . Medicare was instituted quickly during the mid-1960's and now, with current conditions ripe, it can be broadened to become the truly admired, historic legacy of your administration.
Sharon	Elliot	CA	
Judy	Elliott	CA	This is such a good idea. Let's do it!
Peggy	Elwell	CA	We needs single payer. Too many people are suffering!
Lynn	Ely RN	CA	I have been an RN for 28 yrs and know what our medical system faces from the inside. Universal health care is the only way we will solve our crisis here. Please look at all the other industrial nations who currently have one and their health care outcomes and cost savings. Our efficiency will improve as well. I do not think we need to fear wait times. We need to dispel those myths and tell the truth now. The private insurance industry is a dinosaur and is criminal in its handling of our people. Stop the madness!



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Keith	En	CA	Republicans want to stop our ability to form a public alliance to provide health insurance for everyone and make us slaves to private insurance companies, and we should repudiate their efforts to nullify the concept of a "government of the people, by the people, and for the people". We have every right to create publicly financed health insurance like we've done with public schools, safety and transportation.
Robyn	Engel	CA	It is beyond time to take care of our own in a real way, and we finally have a President phenomenal enough to make this happen.
paul	engstrom	CA	Please promote Single Payer Health Care for Everyone.
Peter	Epperly	CA	Just look out on our streets and look at who is barely walking or lying beside a building wrapped in blankets.
Harris	Epstein	CA	
Claudia	Erickson	CA	
Jeanne	Ertle	CA	
Nilda	Esteban	CA	Dear President Obama, Our population deserves once for all a Universal, affordable Health Care to protect our families. A preventive care would be an important addition to support the health of our community. I urge you to consider my petition, Sincerely, Nilda steam
Casey	Farmer	CA	Health care is a civil rights issue. Help it be more effective and just for all by creating universal health care!
Linda	Faste	CA	
Olivia	Fe	CA	I can't believe a Nation as rich as ours - and our citizens can't even afford the high cost of health care. It's shameful!
Kathleen	Fedrow	CA	
Kathrine H.	Fegette	CA	We need the money going to health care and not duplicated, bureaucracy bound administrative costs. It is shameful how we compare to outer industrialized nations and the level of health care we provide.
Stewart	Ferry	CA	People with chronic illness (of which sooner or later most of us will experience) through no fault of their own are burdened by our current system where we see insurance companies more and more are intent on denying care. It is time we recognized we need to share in each others healthcare well being as many leading industrialized countries have long ago realized.
Debbie	Fier	CA	I am a self-employed single parent and can barely afford health care. It is not fair to ourselves or to our next generation!
Kathleen	Finney	CA	
Andrew	Fitzcharkes	CA	Insurance works best with a large pool of people and a clear benefits structure. Since Medicare work reasonable well, why re invent the wheel? This will save a lot of money and help everyone in our country.
John	Flick	CA	Our present system is broken. Publicly financed health care for all makes sense and costs no more when you account for the savings in administrative costs. Let's get on with it!
Wayne P.	Flottman	CA	Single Payer ---- Now. Who is being paid off to "keep this off the table" and "under wraps"? Shame!



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Wil	Fluewelling	CA	Affordable insurance is very important to my fiancé and me because we both lost our jobs last year and could not find work, so we decided to further our education and return to college. Now, we cannot find health insurance for less than \$5000/yr, which is an impossible expense when living on a fixed income of student loans and small part time work.
Jim	Forsyth	CA	Private health insurance companies are impossible to regulate, as Massachusetts is finding out. Get rid of them!
Kim	Fowler	CA	
Norman	Frank	CA	This plan will remove the health insurance burden on businesses.
Nadine	Franklin	CA	
Tom	Frankum	CA	
Marcy	Fraser	CA	We must eliminate the influence of insurance companies on our health care. Insurance coverage is not health care. As a nurse myself, I have seen firsthand the negative effects of care brokered by for profit companies that must answer to shareholders. It just doesn't work.
CALVIN	FREEMAN	CA	Health care is not a commodity than can be efficiently allocated by market forces, especially a market that is dominated by health insurance companies. Nor is health care only of benefit to the individual receiving it. We all already pay for health services to the uninsured through taxes, higher premiums, or diminished or stressed resources due to delayed care. We also pay through exposure to uncontrolled communicable diseases. Health reform is essential.
Nancy	Friedman	CA	It hurts my heart to know how many people are suffering physically, emotionally and financially due to lack of access to affordable health care.
Michi	Fu	CA	Behavioral health care could help to reduce the cost of health care by preventing various illnesses (e.g. diet or stress related diseases).
Sandra	Furlich	CA	As an RN, I used to see patients "gratis," because their private insurance company (and its shareholders) would not pay for me to see these patients. Universal Health Care, with insurance companies as an ALTERNATIVE OPTION. Thank you.
Deanna	Furman	CA	Please enact Medicare for All - Single Payer, in this economy and to get our economy moving again, single payer is what we need!
sheila	g oldmacher	CA	Healthcare is a right not a privilege. It is shameful that this country is the only western so-called democracy that does not guarantee this right to its citizens and residents. Creating a true healthcare for all program will eliminate waste and prevent much illness among us all. When I see all the foreclosures and bankruptcies around us due to medical bills unpayable, I cry shame on America. Fix it now -
Patricia	Gallagher	CA	
javier	garcia	CA	Health care is very important to our future and generations into the future
Annette	Gardner	CA	It's time to make a serious move toward Health for All and focus on health promoting environments and not just the health of the health care delivery system. We already have the means and the resources...we need the commitment at the highest level.
alvaro	garza	CA	we have to do the right thing; that is to ensure that absolutely everyone has a right to health and health care.

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Lauren	Gaum	CA	
Mary	Gill	CA	We do not want two systems, in which the insurance companies have the right to deny coverage to those most in need and brand the public system as inferior.
Joan	Goddard	CA	
Judy	Goddess	CA	I've worked most of my adult life, yet if I were not receiving Medicare, I could not afford health care. A civilized nation should treat its citizens with more care.
Carilyn	Goldammer	CA	This legislation is important to me because I am among many people I know who are uninsured. After 21 years in public school education in some of the most stressful, poverty, problematic schools in the far north of California, I must wait 5 years until I can have health care. Why? Because the stress of my position with special education finally caused me to take two medications, and when I tried to buy insurance, blue cross/blue shield were going to more than double the fee (from about \$200 per month for high, high deductible) to \$479. That's too much on my retirement. I know so many others, private business owners who have been forced out of work by the economy, those with chronic health problems, who can't afford insurance. Single-payer health care is the only way to really meet the needs of Americans. Try cutting back on wars and you'll have the money! I wish you luck, because I know it's not an easy row to hoe. Sincerely, Carilyn goldammer Mother, Retired teacher
suzi	Goldmacher	CA	As a healthcare provider for over 25 years I urge you to support a healthcare system such as Medicare for all. This would provide healthcare security for everyone because everyone will be covered by a health plan. We need to get rid of the profit motive and therefore eliminate the insurance companies which only act to limit the coverage and reduce the care people receive. We cannot afford this type of system anymore. It is time for a big change.
Jeffrey	Gordon, MD	CA	As a practicing physician I can no longer tolerate the absurdities and waste created by the health insurance industry. I think Medicare is wonderful. Expand it for everyone.
Robert	Gould	CA	
Don	Grant	CA	
JOHN	GRAY	CA	The important issue in Healthcare for All is to eliminate the profit making of the HMO's. Healthcare should be available to All.
bert	greenberg	CA	single payer is the most efficient and economic way to go.
nancy	Greep	CA	Medicare for all is the best template upon which to build real health reform
Hans	Grellmann	CA	Health care is a right and should not be a for profit business opportunity for insurance companies.
Patricia	Grenfell	CA	
Roma	Guy	CA	Pass a full comprehensive coverage for all adults in the Use
Sally	Gwin-Satterlee	CA	I am a registered nurse and I believe health care is a right not a privilege. Every American has a right to quality health care.
LindaLou	Haines	CA	
Amy	Halio	CA	Our health care costs are contributing to the financial ruin of this country. We need single payer health coverage for all!
Sandra	Handsher	CA	

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Karen	Hanson	CA	There approximately 400+ employees of Merced County Office of Education who do not have medical coverage nor can they afford it. Those of us who do have coverage are barely able to afford it as the premiums continue to rise inequitable to our salaries annually. We urge you to consider a single-payer health plan for the USA. Thank you.
Shirley	Harlan	CA	All the facts for quality, affordable healthcare for all is supported by over a majority of citizens. The time to change from employment based plan is now. Medical for all is the way to go.
R.M. 'Auros'	Harman	CA	My COBRA is about to run out from my old job. I'd rather have a gov't run plan than one run by these dishonest corporate insurers.
Molly	Hart	CA	

Marietta	Harvey	CA	
Frederic	Harvey	CA	We do not need the extra expense of private insurance programs
Walter	Heath	CA	It is utterly incredible that our country does not have a single-payer health care system for everyone.
Ann Kristine	Hellgren	CA	Our healthcare system is the laughing stock of the developed world. Real Healthcare reform for Americans means single payer universal healthcare for all, anything less that involves the avarice of the insurance industry is no reform at all. Millions of Americans are without healthcare coverage. The big picture is that not only the people without coverage are endangered, but everyone that comes in contact with them. An epidemic in this country will cause millions of deaths those of the uninsured and the insured that are exposed to them. Congress and whatever Administration is in office force American taxpayers to pay for continual wars and whenever ruling industries have financial difficulties support a socialized approach to savings their assets. The average American pays for it. In return Americans are forced to sacrifice and not even thrown a crumb of assistance. Please start considering the average American on par with the unscrupulous industries the Congress and Administration continue to protect and enhance. To do less will lead to disaster for all of us.
Roger	Henderson	CA	
Evelyn	Hendricks	CA	
David	Hetland	CA	

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Russ	Hickman	CA	How can we give away billions of tax dollars as the worlds Santa Claus and policeman, but we "can't afford" health care here at home?! Our elected officials must find the courage to confront this problem head-on, and make the corrections we all know are needed!
Hannah	Hill	CA	
Daria	Hilton	CA	
Susanne	Hinman	CA	I pay for my own health insurance as well as my sons. We both have high deductible due to the monthly payments. My son is diabetic and has been for 12 years, since he was 10 years old. I can't afford most doctor appointments for me, they average \$200.00, so I just don't go. I have fibroid tumors that should come out but just can't afford the hospital bills because my deductible is so high. My son should have more medical attention but we again can not afford the medical bills. Just his insulin each year in Jan and Feb is \$300.00 + each month after that (not counting everything else with a diabetic). Would you not get the medical/dental attention you and your family would need. The middle class gets no breaks, we pay for everything. If I was rich or poor my way would be paid. My taxes pay your income, you and your families medical and dental. Lets switch, you use my medical and by the way NO dental at all, and I get to use yours for a while, and by the way you have to pay the monthly premiums also, everything I pay. Then if you don't see any problems, we can keep it that way. I get yours and you get to keep mine. The middle class is disappearing in a rapid rate and you wonder why the economy is so bad, the middle class can not hold the load anymore. Instead of supporting the middle class family you destroyed it. It's your move.
Daniel	Hodges	CA	
Brooke	Hollister	CA	
Halsted	Holman	CA	
Charles	Horowitz	CA	
Kathryn	Horsley	CA	If we could do one thing to restore peoples' trust in the country's economy, providing single-payer health care would be IT! The people are so in need of this reform and so ready to support its implementation. With universal health care, we could finally concentrate on prevention through the life course, starting with preconception, prenatal, early life, etc.,etc.! Imagine the dignity all would experience!
Lisa	Houston	CA	Our goal is to reduce the burden of tobacco-related disease on populations of low socioeconomic status. Without Medicare to provide access to smoking cessation aids (nicotine replacement therapy), many poor people would be completely bereft of assistance to quit.
Debra	Howell	CA	
Min Mei	Huang	CA	Health care for everyone should be considered as one high level item of human rights to be available in the US, which we need and should be proud of having it.
Annette	Hunter	CA	I would like to live in a society where all citizens have available health care. Everyone should be able to get care before illness gets serious and more expensive. We all need a healthy environment.



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Diane	Ichiyasu	CA	We must have REAL health care reform. Get the insurance companies out of the business of determining health care for our people. They siphon off 30% of every health care dollar and it is NOT right. The government can negotiate prices for medicines so people do not go bankrupt when having to buy drugs. DON'T LET the lobbyists blind you to the truth about our broken health care system. Please PASS John Conyers' HR 676- Single Payer health Care for all!!!!
Gloria	Imagire	CA	When we were working, things seemed to go ok. Now that we are retirees, our biggest worry is re healthcare. We need to fix our broken healthcare system!
Rachel	Iverson	CA	
Rebecca	Iverson	CA	Health care reform is way overdue, and finally President Obama has a good plan. I support it completely.
Mary	izett	CA	I have had cancer. My husband has had a triple bypass. We live mostly on social security. Even Medicare is not enough.
Jay	Jackman	CA	We are the only industrialized nation that does not recognize comprehensive health care as a right for all of its citizens. We have been so caught up in the "market" mentality that we have lost sight of the real purpose of all of these institutions, such as health care, which is to serve the community's well being and not operate to the disadvantage of the citizenry.
Patricia	Jackson	CA	We can only solve the health care crisis in this country by adopting single payer universal health care like most other countries in the world.
Shermineh	Jafarih	CA	When did we ever think that health care delivery and coverage would not be compromised as a for profit mode and then be surprised when we compromise the whole premise of what it means to provide care. This is madness and it requires a complete shift in our medical model and understanding of healthcare for all. Please take a stand that will change the future of so many generations to come.
Wilma	Jaffe	CA	
Victor	Jang	CA	
Catherine	Janicke York	CA	
Berget	Jelane	CA	
Mary	Jenison	CA	Please please get the for-profit insurance companies out of the mix! We need a single-payer plan, run by our government, which has run Social Security and Medicare very successfully for many years. I have been turned down for medical insurance, and I have also paid horrendous monthly fees for medical insurance when they had to cover me through COBRA. I now have Medicare, which is so much better. Please get those obscene profits out of our system. Let medical decisions be made by physicians, not insurance company claims people. Thank you for listening. Thank God we have a new President who is caring and thoughtful, and who sincerely cares about the working people of this country.
Becky	Jenkins	CA	Finally, now that I am over 65, I have good health care through Senior Advantage at Kaiser. This is after years of struggling to pay Kaiser and to pay their high fees for my children. My son and his wife can only pay for their coverage with my help. We are the lucky ones but the hardship is unfair for all.



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Linda	Jenkins	CA	Universal health care is a critical necessity for all Americans. We cannot build an economically and physically sound America if we do not create an accessible health care system for each and every American.
Reyn	Johnson	CA	Everyone should have medical care...at the level needed for penultimate results...not just what is provided to people without means. It's madness not to have it for all. Medicare works...expand Medicare so that it "works" for all.
Scott	Johnson	CA	No insurance company or other corporation should be allowed to make contributions to any political campaign. Corporations are not people and they do not deserve the right of freedom of speech in the form of campaign contributions.
Vicky	Julian	CA	I am afraid of going broke because of illness. I pay for individual coverage now, but am afraid of being denied coverage because of pre-existing conditions. Please give us an affordable public option. Keeping the for-profit insurance industry in the middle of everything is a path to further unraveling of a miserable, shameful system.
Linda	Kahn	CA	I'm unfortunate to have been diagnosed with breast cancer last year. I was without insurance, and unable to get any coverage for less than \$1500/mo, and then the cap was too low. Had I not be fortunate enough to hear about the federally funded BCCTP insurance, I would have lost everything: my house, my retirement, my savings. Had I had anything but breast cancer, there would have not been any insurance and I would have lost everything. We're all just a step away from economic disaster, and everyone needs to have affordable coverage. If health insurance continues to be a profit-making industry, no one will be safe and we'll continue to see hard economic times. Please, instead of bailing out millionaires on Wall St., provide publicly funded health insurance for all Americans.
Rachel	Kahn-Hut	CA	It is important to me that everyone be covered. Really covered. A mandate will not work as it has not worked in MA. Too many people can only afford premiums on a plan with such high deductibles that they can never access care. That is not insurance. And we have to stop paying so much money for administrative costs. Medicare and Kaiser have shown that it is not necessary.
Jan	Karwin	CA	None of my grown children has health care insurance. One just got laid off. One is a freelance computer consultant. And one works full time, but without health insurance coverage. Thank goodness I have Medicare. They should be so lucky. We need Medicare for All.
Elizabeth	Kebschull	CA	Private insurance companies have no place in quality health care. Their motivations are only to swindle and confuse us. Give us real health care reform that provides the quality care of industrialized countries around the world. And do it now.
Michael	Keenan	CA	Please do the right thing. We are a civilized country and we should look out for the sick.
molly	kelllogg	CA	I lived abroad in Hong Kong for a number of years and I still spend part of every year in Europe. I am shocked at the state of the US healthcare system that allows so many to fall through the cracks and makes our system substandard. This is unacceptable in a country with our human and financial resources. I am willing to work to do everything I can to

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ensure a better system for all.

Jovita	Kerner	CA	America needs a single, simple-to-use safety net healthcare system like Medicare for everyone. Patchwork public plans and private, for-profit health insurance do not work; I've worked in healthcare for over 40 years, and just retired from a career in public health. I am ashamed of the inadequate healthcare system this prosperous country offers working class families.
Shelley	Kessler	CA	
Isabel	Kimble	CA	Turning Park D over to the insurance companies was a big mistake. They absorb 30% of health care money and only identify people who are really sick so as to deny them coverage.
PC	KINTAUDI	CA	THIS IS CRITICAL FOR THE OPTIMUM HEALTH AND SURVIVAL FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE; IF IMPLEMENTED WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN MIND, IT CAN BE DONE!!! UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE IS EFFICIENT, AFFORDABLE AND EQUITABLE!
George	Koch	CA	Please don't be swayed by the corporations. The people's needs are more important.
Janet	Kranzberg	CA	This is long past due. We need you run the field - not waste time and lose lives unnecessarily until an uncertain future date. (Remember Bill Clinton's second term!) Let's cut to the chase now. Thanks for listening, Janet K.
Joyce	Lahof	CA	
KENT	LAKE	CA	HEALTHCARE FOR ALL IS A MORALLY IMPERATIVE ISSUE. DONE RESPONSIBLY IT WILL MAKE SENSE FISCALLY. PLEASE REFER TO CA. SB810.
Jeanne	Lamar	CA	
Ilyana	landes	CA	It is embarrassing that most of Europe has full health care coverage for all, and we are still bumbling around the edges trying to please the insurance industry. We Do Not Need Them -- they are a HINDRANCE to the care we need.
D B	Latko	CA	Single payer health care is more cost effective.
joan	lautenberger	CA	This would be reform! What we've heard from Washington, DC has been insurance lobbyists writing the bills as they have for a century.
Gianna	Le	CA	
Nancy	Legato	CA	
Frey	Leigh	CA	
Mary and Bud	Lembke	CA	There is no question in my mind that we should adopt Medicare for all as our model for universal health care. We are wasting time considering other plans when this one has proven itself
Connie	Lemke	CA	
Esther	Lerman	CA	Health care should be a right and not a privilege. Other countries are able to provide it to all citizens, why not the US?



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Deborah	LeVeen	CA	A public option available to all Americans is the only way to ensure that health reform will both improve quality and control costs. And it is also morally essential: if we require all Americans to participate, we cannot require them to purchase private insurance from a largely for-profit and increasingly concentrated industry. Providing choice ensures both access to high quality coverage and the competitive pressure that will force private insurance to improve its offerings.
John sara	IEVIN levin	CA CA	I am a primary care physician on the front lines everyday in the American Health care system. The only solution to providing equitable, quality care to our people is a single-payer system that takes the profit out of medicine. Please listen to the people on this one.
Cheryl	Lilienstein	CA	Our son is medical student who is in debt from school loans, has health insurance through his school. Two years ago he was diagnosed with cancer, and his school insurance covers the cost of his cancer treatments. But once he graduates, he will no longer be covered, and IF an insurer could be found that will accept his pre-existing condition, no doubt it will be unaffordable for him. This is just one reason why we must have publicly financed healthcare. The other, broader reason is that a publicly financed solution COULD set the conditions necessary to actually improve the quality of healthcare delivery, by using electronic medical records and a NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DATA BASE to evaluate best practices and do outcome studies: we would all benefit from this effort, and doing this would show the public that the government has the capacity to generate improvements in our lives. It would once again mean that working for the government is a worthwhile job that contributes to the common good, as it did after the Great Depression. Also, I know a family who is leaving the US to live in Europe because they will receive publicly financed medical care and education for their kids. We cannot afford have a diaspora of those who value life and education, can we? Imagine our national story should this become a broad trend: "In the 21st century, US citizens sought a better life by returning to the old country. They were fleeing the failed free market system for the security of healthcare and subsidized higher education for their children in a more civilized world. Their tax money, intended to protect the common good, had been squandered on war and speculation, so they left to seek a better future for their children. "Let's not have that become our story. We need healthcare for all.
VeLora	Lilly	CA	The American public deserves to have medical coverage as good as that of the folks in Congress!
William joyce	Linford lisbin	CA CA	Let's just do it and be like every other industrialized nation. Lets have universal health care coverage
Millee	Livingston	CA	I just had a mammogram. Medicare was charged \$501. This was for the x-ray and doctor fee. This is way too much. We need universal care and need it now. Thank you. Millee Livingston



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Betty	Lo	CA	My son is a psychiatrist in private practice. Due to his pre-existing medical condition, he can not obtain insurance coverage. And yet, the same insurance companies are reducing his reimbursements. He is not asking for free health care coverage. He is asking for affordable and unconditional coverage for him and everyone living in USA. Thank you.
grsnt	lois	CA	Dear President Obama and Congress, Health reform is urgently needed. I support a publicly financed system such as Medicare. Lois Grant
Larry	Lozares	CA	Why is it acceptable that Health Insurance companies ROUTINELY deny people coverage? Their statements (in the recent Frontline piece) that they want to be part of reform are laughable when they have been in the driver's seat all this time and have driven us into a ditch. Their stated 24 - 30 % "overhead" costs that do not contribute to actual healthcare is very telling. Please support H.R. 676.
Toni	Lubofsky	CA	Health care should not be a for-profit enterprise, if we have universal health care our businesses will be more competitive with other countries, and it should be publicly supported like fire, police and public safety.
Richard & Johanna	Luke	CA	
Michael	Lyon	CA	The public option part of the Obama plan is not a stepping stone to single payer healthcare. It will be a place where sick patients are sequestered. There is no way to force private insurance companies to accept a proportionate number of sick patients, because they will have unlimited ability to market to healthy patients and then tailor their programs to those healthy patients. The public plan will become the dumping ground for sick patients, and will fail, just as traditional Medicare would have failed if premium-support/direct-competition, as prescribed by the Medicare Modernization Act were to take place.
James	Lyons	CA	I think a program like this is the best way of achieving health care for all.
Sandra	Mack	CA	
Viranjit	Madan	CA	Health care for profit has made it onerous and expensive for both providers and patients. By creating a competing public program, insurance companies will eventually provide better care at reasonable costs.
Martha	Madison	CA	It is shameful that close to 50 million Americans don't have health care. We need Medicare for all where no one is denied healthcare. It is a prudent system where we can choose our doctors. Doctors and patients should be involved in patient's care not insurance companies. The big insurance corporations and pharmaceutical corporations are making huge profits on the back of the people. Healthcare should be a right not a privilege.
Leslie D	Madison	CA	Common sense when people live in close proximity of one another.
Virginia	Maher	CA	Mr. President: Please remember that the corporations are not America. Do what is best for the people and give them what polls show they want and need. Furthermore, the financial morass we are in seeks the best savings plan and YOU KNOW this is it--Single Payer!
Emily	Maloney	CA	We all know you have received some 4 to 5 million dollars from the insurance industry. You need to be ashamed if you let that influence from supporting H.R. 676, Enhanced and Improved Medicare for All!



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Jerry	Marr	CA	Dear President Obama, Senator Edward Kennedy, and all interested in health care reform. We truly need a single payer approach to health care reform. Trimming overhead administrative costs within the insurance industry would reduce costs by 30% at least. This could go a long way towards funding single payer. Your support and consideration is urgently needed. Sincerely Jerry Marr Health Care for All in Yolo County Davis, California
Henry	Martinez	CA	The best solution to the health care problem is SB840 being proposed in California. This could have the added benefit of economic stimulus as consumers would have as much as three quarters of the money they spend on health insurance back in their paychecks.
vicko	matulovic	CA	
Ray	McAfee	CA	
MICHAEL	McCLANAHAN	CA	Dear Sirs, God has given me a gift to care for and help heal my fellow man. I attended Medical school to carry out that assignment. Over the years my work has shifted from the healing arts to administrative care. It's becoming a very impersonal robotic profession and gives our patients acute survival care and no encouragement to improve their long term health through education and taking personal responsibility for their health (once termed preventative care). My time with patients is shrinking as my Insurance driven paper work is growing. Please, let's get back to the basics of good sound Health Care. "We the people" need to care for our people.
Nancy	McClintock	CA	
Frank	McElroy	CA	Please remove the "middleman" insurance co.'s and provide Medicare for all.
Jean W.	McFadden	CA	
nan	mcguire	CA	Health CARE SHOULD NOT BE SOMETHING THAT ANYONE MAKES A PROFIT ON. we NEED TO JOIN OTHER FIRST world COUNTRIES WHO ARE FAR AHEAD OF US IN THIS ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT FOR A DECENT LIFE Nan McGuire
Hugh	Mclsaac	CA	Allowing the option for the public to choose a Medicare-for-all plan is essential, along with a system that promotes health and wellness rather than the current fee for services given system. Private insurance has unsustainable overhead costs such as advertising and profit for stock holders resulting in an overhead rate anywhere from 15% to 30%. In the U.S. we pay twice as much for healthcare than any other country and we are 37th in health care results according to the World Health Organization.
Kathleen	McNally	CA	Everyone, morally, deserves health care! No one should be denied the right to get the resources to health.
Irene	McPhail	CA	Health care is a right and should never be a for profit enterprise Expenses could be reduced by 50% if it were not for the profits and overheads of our current system. I speak as a retired psychotherapist who worked within the system for too long.
Evelyn	McPherson	CA	There is, and always will be people who do not (or cannot) hold a paying job. So tax those who can and pay for medical care for everyone. It will save money in the long run!

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Mary Sue	Meads	CA	When businesses complain about the costs and workers are shuffling from job to job to unemployment--it makes sense that medical insurance should not be tied to work. When insurance companies charge huge (for most) premiums and then attempt to deny coverage it is time for the government to take over. If this program works elsewhere, why not here?
Elizabeth	Means	CA	Single Payer can control costs --E. Means
rashida	merchant	CA	
Judy	Merry	CA	What we need is universal health care! Like so many other countries have successfully implemented!
Donna	Merz	CA	
Shannon	Miller	CA	I want Universal Single-Payer Health Care!
John G,	Miller	CA	Please stop wasting our precious resources and lives in subsidizing health insurance industry profiteers. Enact the sensible and proven program prescribed by HR 676: expanded and improved Medicare for All! Stop arbitrarily ruling out what the majority of people who voted for you have said through polls they support, a single payer type system.
Eileen	Mitro	CA	The system we have now benefits insurance companies with the American people at their mercy. Health insurance companies are another aspect of the financial fiasco we have been witnessing. Not to act for health care reform promotes the continuing victimization of people for the greed of a few. Eileen Mitro
Elizabeth	Moody	CA	Without Medicare I would be unable to afford health care at 81 years old. Please, let's get a plan to provide health care for all.
Hubert	Morel-Seytoux	CA	As a Quaker, I am deeply committed to the principle of universal health care. Because of our testimonies on Community and Equality, I feel that our government needs to look after all its people. Every person living in this land is entitled to adequate health care, regardless of race, religion, economic standing or citizenship. I support the establishment of a single-payer system. Such a system is the only one capable to produce a radical reduction in the administrative cost of providing health care. Provision also has to be made to train the additional personnel who will be needed to meet the increased demands of a larger clientele once every citizen is provided with adequate health care. We must build additional hospitals and medical schools in order to avoid the problem of bottlenecks which have plagued some universal systems elsewhere. Universal Health Care will have to deal with one more painful and difficult problem: some limitation of publicly assisted health care, especially of costly advanced procedures, for the rapidly growing elderly population. We must be aware of the fact that medical care is also a limited resource which has to be shared rationally and compassionately among all citizens.



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John	Morrison	CA	Fixing our current healthcare delivery problems will make our families and communities stronger and enable union middleclass working families to expand their purchasing power by not having to bargain for them via employer health systems which have skyrocketed in cost the last 20 years! Covering all taxpayers, without pre-existing conditions sends a message that we all deserve what congress has in healthcare and we pay the taxes for our responsive government as well. We as a nation need a 21st century jumpstart in humane treatment which helps all working families. The main cause of middleclass bankruptcy and foreclosures are "unpaid catastrophic illnesses" affecting your work, family and future. Thank you for considering an historical step in the right direction besides the 'War on Terror'. Affordable Healthcare is Homeland Security. Never doubt that. We all get old and die. Let's have ample, quality healthcare and dignity as we go and care for our loved ones who have fought so hard to maintain our way of life.
Joel	Moskowitz	CA	Too many Americans are uninsured or under-insured and the cost of health insurance is prohibitive. As the wealthiest nation in the world, why do we not provide universal coverage for health care while most other high income countries do?
Scott	Nass	CA	As a medical student graduating in June, I will continue to treat patients working hard to feed their families and keep them housed, yet unable to afford reasonable healthcare plans. Single-payer is the only real solution for America's current healthcare crisis.
Christine	Nava	CA	I am so afraid that the corporate lobbyists and insurance companies are going to influence the outcome of healthcare reform. Healthcare is a basic human right that we are denying untold numbers in our society. Please do not give in to the naysayers.
Carolyn	Negrete	CA	I am an old nurse, 1950's, and I am keenly aware of vast changes in our healthcare system and our health insurance system over these years. We have had a half century experiment in a free market health rationed system, and it hasn't worked for us. We have good evidence that we can do better, many other countries are doing very well with less. We have macro studies, personal experience and the great propeller of computer technology that has expanded our access to data and to answers to many pesky problems that will allow the health provider to choose the right treatment to the bedside or the telephone. For this capacity to know to have an impact on our communities and people as well as our general prosperity, we cannot ration it with a cumbersome and fractured insurance system based on the bottom line of profit. We need a new model based on the growth and well-being of our people and our communities.
Mary	Nelson	CA	
Robert	Newman	CA	Health Care is both a human issue and an economic issue. As a basic human right all people should have access to affordable health care that is not dependent on employment status or preexisting conditions. By doing this we free up people to pursue their dreams and contribute to the country's future. If we can make the system efficient our businesses will have a reduced burden and be better able to compete in the world marketplace. This should be a top priority for this administration!

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Judy	Niizawa	CA	
Mindy	Oberne	CA	It is a well known fact that the administrative costs of our current health care system are a staggering 30% because of the profit the private insurance companies need to make. It's obvious to me the immediate fiscal benefit of cutting out this factor of the equation. As far as I'm aware, the only plan to date that addresses this issue is Single Payer. I believe health care is an essential service like the police and fire departments. I believe it's undemocratic to privatize essential services. Regardless, I believe until our legislators in Washington have to live with the same health care program they legislate for the public, there will be no fair or self-sustaining solution to this enormous problem. At this point, one third of my husband's and my income goes to health insurance. We are self-employed and don't get any group plan breaks. We pay close to \$10,000 a year in premiums, and then have another \$6500 per person deductible. In California we are trying to pass SB840 similar to HR676 in Washington. I implore you to consider this SINGLE PAYER bill and eliminate the health care for profit insurance companies. Your tax credit of \$800 will pay for one month's worth of our health insurance premiums. The passing of a SINGLE PAYER bill would save us thousands without your having to hand us any money. I know the insurance companies' influence is enormous, but you do have the power to make a bold change and deliver us out of bondage from the health care for profit insurance industry. It truly is a form of slavery. Single Payer, please.
Catherine	O'Brien	CA	
Kathleen	O'Nan	CA	
Lois	Ostrander-Smith	CA	Please--use our taxes for something that directly benefits our lives, not other countries or the balance of trade. Taxes need real help, not just CEOs!!!
Robert	Owen	CA	There is a wonderful song that expresses our healthcare situation. The refrain is "gotta get insurance out, out, out, cause we need healthcare." We all need it, even those of us whose employers are unwilling or unable to help pay for it.
Michelle	Oyarzo	CA	
George	Parmer	CA	I understand the urge to half-step, a "don't ask don't tell" health care plan. It's too important, too critical not to go all the way. You have our support!
Sonny	Patel	CA	
Kathleen	Percy	CA	
Martha	Perdue	CA	
stephen	perlman	CA	
elinor	petuskey	CA	Health care is a right not a privilege. it is time to provide health care for all out citizens. We need to move on this quickly. Our present system financially drains family budget, individual goals and large/small businesses.
Janet	Phinick	CA	Based on my experience working in the industrial insurance industry for 20 years, I feel that this is in the best interest of our country and business community. It will reverse the tide of outsourcing to the global community.
Kathie	Piccagli	CA	



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Giorgio	Piccagli	CA	Everyday experience and the research literature make it clear that the problems Americans have with health care cannot be solved by the private market alone. In fact, market failures have created some of these problems.
Robert	Pierce	CA	
karen	pierce	CA	
Tammy	Pilisuk	CA	
Marc and Phyllis	Pilisuk	CA	I am a caregiver of a wife with progressive multiple sclerosis. My HMO denies essential treatments and adds endless layers of extra work to accomplish simple things. it is the bane of my existence.
Catherine	Pinkas	CA	This is critically important for the senior and poor communities of our nation.
Laurence J	Platt, MD	CA	
Judith	Pogue	CA	We will not have cost effective health care, under which doctors and patients make decisions about treatment, until for profit insurance companies are out of the picture.
Howard	Pollick	CA	I am willing to pay a little extra to cover someone who is not covered by health insurance.
Leonard	Potash	CA	
Donna	Poulos	CA	Please institute a universal, single payer health care system. Every American deserves quality health care at affordable prices. Other nations that have national health care spend less on health care and have better health results. It is past time for this reform. Please do it NOW!
Catherine	Powell	CA	A single payer system works in every other advanced country, like England and Canada. We must stand up to the insurance company/big pharma lobbies and solve our health care crisis. Single payer is the only way to do this.
Michael	Powell	CA	I am a rheumatologist and internist in California who believes we must eliminate the private health insurance middleman from our profession. There is no evidence that our dysfunctional American private insurance system has improved the quality of medical care. Private insurance has been an interesting experiment that has reached a logical conclusion: we can not trust the stockholders, CEO's, CPA's, and other insurance middlemen to do the right thing for sick people in need of medical care. Our insurance middlemen specialize in ensuring profits by manipulating caregivers and care-receivers in unconscionable ways. Private insurance has been a disaster for patients who are paying more and receiving less coverage each year. The middle man must be eliminated to restore health to this ailing profession. Michael Powell, D.O.
Bob	Prentice	CA	
Barbara	Proctor	CA	Other countries are able to provide quality health care for their citizens, why not the U.S." Get the insurance companies out of the program.
Beth	Purrinson	CA	
carlos	ramirez	CA	

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Pam	Ramirez	CA	I work in the health care field as an RN. I raised three kids as a single mother. I have been a long time diabetic and have found that if I am unemployed for any reason I am considered uninsurable. For all of the above reasons single payer health care is the only way to go. Everyone needs health care to be a productive citizen. No one needs for bulky greedy insurance companies to skim off the top 30% of every health care dollar. That money is needed for health care not wasteful bureaucracy. We need to trim spending not continue to waste it. Insurance companies only exist to make money not to provide health care; insurance companies have no place in the American health care scene. Their days have long since gone. The annual deaths due to denied coverage is a shame. If you wish to honor Martin Luther King read his comments on health care and leave a legacy we can be proud of. . give all Americans the right to health care.
Ellen	Ratner	CA	Too many people die because they can't afford health care treatment. Everyone should have health care as a given rather than based on how much money you make or where you work.
Betty	Readle	CA	
Charles	Regal	CA	
janet	reinec	CA	It's shameful that America falls so far behind other developed countries in its ability to provide medical care for its citizens. I'm willing to pay higher taxes so everyone can have medical care.
judith	revord	CA	I don't understand why there is any reason to maintain our current system of health care for profit. Why not use the money now spent on insurance and its administration to keep people healthy?
Dorothy	Rice	CA	
Anne	Richardson	CA	Mental health parity with physical health: the brain is a physical organ.
Rita	Rivera	CA	
Rosemarie	Roach	CA	We must get to a true doctor/patient health care system and that cannot happen as long as we continue to allow the insurance industry to control this debate. It is a moral imperative and public health issue that we ensure all American citizens have access to affordable, quality health care when they need it and the only way to achieve that goal is through a single payer, expanded and improved Medicare system that covers all.
carol	robertson	CA	
Ellen	Robinson	CA	
SIMON	ROBLES	CA	AS A RESIDENT OF A RURAL FARMING REGION, I SEE NUMEROUS FARM WORKER FAMILIES WITH NO COVERAGE OR THOSE WHO HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE, PAY HIGH CO-PAYS AND DEDUCTIBLES.
Beverly	Rockabrand	CA	
Marion	Rojas	CA	This is important to all citizens as everyone needs health care--and the burden should fall on all taxpayers, not just employers, in my view.
Patrick	Romano	CA	This is our one best opportunity to reform the health care system so that it provides access to high-quality care for every American. Thank you for taking on this critical challenge for the future of American health, equity, and global competitiveness.

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Laura	Rosbrow	CA	
Pam	Rosenthal	CA	
Michael	Rosenthal	CA	It is long past time for a decent and humane system of providing health care to everyone who needs it.
Eric	Rubinstein, M.D.	CA	I am a physician. Our present health care system is a disgrace! Please have the courage to expand Medicare to all!
Judith	Sahagen	CA	
James	Sane	CA	
William	Sanford	CA	
hari	sathianathan	CA	
Tom	Sawyer	CA	My friend just had a horrible 3+day, multiple phone calls, final 3-hr phone call, + trip to pharmacy that was not needed all because her insurance company kept loosing paperwork, had no history of her calls and kept telling her to do the same thing several times. I have NEVER had any trouble with my Medicare Administration. WE DON'T NEED PRIVATE CARRIERS THAT ARE MORE INTERESTED IN DENYING SERVICE AND MAKING CLAIMS DIFFICULT.
Virginia	Scales	CA	Tuesday, March 31, "Frontline" had an especially informative program on the current status of health care in the United States. I would offer Medicare as a model that we should follow for to reach our goal for adequate, equal, and affordable health care for all Americans.
Susan mary	Schacher Scheib NP	CA CA	As a Nurse Practitioner in the Public Health sector, I see the impact of our broken, inequitable system on a daily basis. We desperately need a Single Payor system.
Jeanie	Schmidt	CA	Please support and pass HR676 ASAP- we ALL deserve equal and quality healthcare without the interests of private companies!
Katherine	Scourtes	CA	Health Care should be a human right worldwide. In America, our tax money should be supporting direct benefits for the people but recently, it seems the people have been supporting everyone else while they fall through the cracks. Mr. President, let's join the rest of the civilized world and provide full health care for the fabric of this country.
Ellen	Shaffer	CA	
Anita	Shah	CA	
rita and bob	shapiro	CA	Both of us have worked in health care our whole lives and see the urgent need to provide universal health care without diverting funds to for profit industries.
Megan	Shaughnessy	CA	
Olive	Shaughnessy	CA	Universal health care can unleash the creativity of our young people who are now enslaved by the combination of huge college debt and the requirement to have a job that provides health care. How many of us are frozen by fear of a health catastrophe, so do not risk innovation? An elder myself, I join many others who simply don't go to the doctor for check-ups and screenings due to the co-pay cost combined with my enormous monthly insurance. Self employed as I am a full one quarter of my income is for health insurance alone.
Martha	Shaughnessy	CA	

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Cindy	Sherbeck	CA	It's time to put people before profit. It's time to value the health of Americans over the wealth of private industry. Please represent the MAJORITY of Americans and support Medicare for all.
Sanghyuk	Shin	CA	
Michael	Sholinbeck	CA	
Delphine	Silverman	CA	
Grace	Sloan	CA	Too many people get sick because they cannot afford preventive care and then it becomes more expensive to the taxpayer when they go to an ER where we all have to pay their bill. It is the right and human thing to do.
Mary E	Slocum	CA	Dear President Obama: Please no more exclusions; no more unaffordable deductibles; no human shields; no more special interests. Yes to everyone covered all the time; yes to negotiated payments to pharmaceuticals, hospitals, and doctors (just like in the real world); yes to improving our longevity; yes to lowering infant mortality; yes to lowering cost; yes to dignity and choice. Thank you.
Kristen	Smith	CA	As a health educator, I know how effective prevention can be. As a person with multiple health issues and employer-based health insurance, I am not satisfied with my current insurance and their continual denials of treatment. I believe that a publicly-funded, publicly accountable, not-for-profit system is the most trustworthy and offers the highest quality.
Susan G	Snow	CA	Expanding Medicare to include all ages is central to my concept of what America is.
Marc	Snyder	CA	
David	Spero	CA	Employer-based benefits are unwanted by employers, patients, or providers. We would all do better with Medicare for all. So would our economy. Private insurers add no value to the product and add greatly to the costs. Stand up to them!! The people are behind you, and we'll get in front if we need to.
june	spero	CA	
John	St. Peter	CA	Now is the time for single-payer healthcare! A new delivery system is desperately needed as today's methods are obviously failing.
Jonathan	Starr	CA	Medicare for All can cover everyone at about the same aggregate cost as we pay today by reducing administrative costs and insurance-company profits, and by leveraging purchasing power. It can alleviate businesses of the competitive disadvantage of providing health-care benefits to employees. Public plans have already shown that they disseminate information about best practices and can improve health-care outcomes. Everybody in, Nobody out!
Bobbie	Steinhart	CA	Real healthcare reform requires publicly funded, equitable, quality, and accessible healthcare. So-called "reform" of the current system would be nothing but insurance reform.
Nancy	Stoller	CA	
Barry	Stompe	CA	



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Brian & Susan	Stompe	CA	This is a monumental opportunity for the President and Congress to adopt the only real solution, single-payer health care. You had it right the 1st time, Mr. President, single -payer health care. DON'T CAVE IN TO INSURANCE AND DRUG COMPANY MONEY AND LOBBYING! HEALTH CARE IS A HUMAN RIGHT, NOT INSURANCE AND DRUG PROFITS! WE CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO NOT FOLLOW OTHER WESTERN INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES IN HEALTH CARE. SERVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NOT INSURANCE AND DRUG COMPANIES. INSURANCE AND DRUG COMPANIES DON'T VOTE, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DO! GET THE JOB DONE OR GET OUT OF THE WAY!! Brian & Susan Stompe Novato, CA
Susan Carolyn	Stompe Straub	CA CA	We have had many periods without group coverage for health insurance. Health insurance is necessary. But the yearly price hikes on individual health insurance plans are dangerous and prohibitive. My husband has had two cancer operations. What would the cost to us be if this happened again when we were without group coverage? We don't even have the resources to pay for such deductions let alone yearly raises (\$1,000 last year). This is absolutely unacceptable that private interests should prevent human beings from having what they need to survive and in America! Where is the country's conscience? Money is now more important than human beings? Last Sunday, one of our priests talked about the anger within this country - and he pinned it directly to those who are promoting self interest at the expenses of others. We cannot pay you the same amount for health insurance for two people as we do for not only monthly mortgage but also for a monthly lot fee on our prefab house.
Peter	Straus	CA	The situation is dire and getting worse. It's clear that Single Payer is the only viable solution. You've gotta give it up with the insurance companies! I voted for you for real change. Will you come through?
Betsy	Strausberg	CA	I am a health instructor at our Community College and at least 1/3 of my students have no health insurance every semester. I look forward to action being taken by your administration to remedy this.
Myles	Sussman	CA	Single Payer is the only plan that will COVER EVERYONE and do it WITHOUT WASTING TRILLIONS on insurance company bureaucracy and greed.
Patrice	Sutton	CA	The lack of an equitable, affordable and universal health care system in the US is a national shame - it squanders prevention and increases human suffering in untold ways. It adds a crushing burden to individuals and their families who are fighting illness. The knowledge is there to build systems that reward healthy outcomes and are located in equity. The only missing ingredient is political leadership. I urge you to make one of the most fundamental differences in the lives of Americans by championing an equitable, quality, universal, affordable health system for all.
Carol Patricia barbara Frances	Suveda Suzuki swarr Taylor	CA CA CA CA	Single Payer Universal Health Care - the time is now.

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Margo	Tenold	CA	A health crisis is one of the leading causes of bankruptcy. We are behind the rest of the developed world in realizing that health care should be available to all. Please make sure that we create a national health care system.
Jean	Tepperman	CA	Health care costs will continue to sabotage our economy as well as individual families unless we get insurance companies out of the mix and create a truly universal, truly public system--the only way to ensure comprehensive coverage to all Americans and control costs!
Asha	Theebaraj	CA	This is important to me because someone like my mom who is no longer able to work because of health reasons can not qualify for health care either and is required to pay in the thousands if she wants health insurance which is extremely high and costly and now taking away all her savings that she worked so hard to accrue.
Laurent	Tillette de Clermont- Tonnerre	CA	
Justine Devi	Toms Tong	CA CA	Universal health care for all . . . it's time SINGLE PAYER health care just makes sense. Why should we continue with private companies which are really in the business of collecting premiums, not paying money for an insured who needs it?
Alexis	Torres	CA	
Barbara	Towle	CA	
nancy	traer	CA	
Gencie	Turner	CA	
Martha	Utz RN	CA	Being a member of the Health Care field I strongly urge you to reconsider and push Single Payer Health Care for All. The work has been done for you with HR 676 and California's SB 810.
Evelyn	Van Hoozer	CA	People can't afford medicine they need to survive. This has to end!
Janet	Vandre	CA	
Phoenix	Vie	CA	
Elizabeth	Vogel	CA	Common health coverage for all American people is the first proof that we all have the same rights.
John	Vollbrecht	CA	My whole adult life I have had Health Insurance. Now over 60, when I need it most, I can no longer afford it. Not to mention, Dental Insurance. Only CEOs can afford to be sick these days. We need socialized medicine now.
Jan	Volz-Kelly	CA	
David	von Schrlitz	CA	Health Care is a right, not a privilege! It is time for every Citizen of America to have access to comprehensive, affordable health care. Working quickly toward this objective, is of utmost importance. I urge both democrats and republicans to put aside all opposition and make universal health care a reality for America. David von Schrlitz
Robin	Wallace	CA	I am a retired R.N. and was raised in Canada where they have an excellent health care system. I have seen it evolve over the past 40 years every since Saskatchewan took the lead. California could do the same for the United States.
Thomas	Wang	CA	We need a public insurance option that can never be taken away from us.

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Li-hsia	Wang, MD, FAAP	CA	I have seen my patients suffer for lack of access to adequate health care. We don't need insurance for infrequent events the way we need fire insurance. We need universal health care, the way we need universal education.
Arnold	Warshaw	CA	What we need is accessible health care for everybody, not unaffordable, ineffective health insurance for some. Single payer health care is what we need. Now.
walt	watman	CA	everyone has a right to health care that is affordable and civilized...and all of us must support one another in obtaining it rather than the insurance industry who has profit as its motivation..
norma	watson	CA	
Russell	Watters	CA	It is important for not just me, but for the whole country to have good medical care.
Ronald	Webb	CA	I am a retired Hospital Social Worker who has seen what happens when patients do not have health insurance usually at no fault of their own. I am currently on Medicare as is my wife. I would like to see a similar program as this is good coverage.
Phyllis	Webb	CA	Everyone has a right to adequate health care, including dental and vision.
Bernard S.	Weintraub	CA	
Peter	Weisberg	CA	As long as the healthcare system is run by for-profit insurance companies, we are placing the wrong focus on the health of Americans. The only important stakeholder, is the public.
Dave	Weller	CA	
Maria	Werkoff	CA	Healthcare is not a business, it is our right, in this great country there is no excuse to have people without healthcare, I support universal healthcare HR 676
Pluscedia	Williams	CA	It is time for health care to be accessible to everyone.
Mary	Williams	CA	Everyone deserves medical insurance.
Donna	Willmott	CA	
Maureen	Wilson	CA	Because I was without health care for several years. Now I have health care, however, I now have stints due to blockage to my heart, and am a diabetic and my teeth are falling out . Maybe if I had health care I would have been diagnosed sooner and could have prevented some of the conditions I now have. I also have mental illness, I had difficulty finding a doctor who would accept my Medicare and once I did the deductible was 180.00 and the co-payments would be 80.00 per visit. I find this hard to understand because my primary care deductible is 0 and my co-payment is 0 also. so I do not have a primary psychiatrist to assist me with my disability.
Janet	Wilson	CA	we need single payer health insurance now.
Clydene	Wilson	CA	I am a retired nurse and I had many patients use up all of their insurance benefits, have to sell all of their property, and still were in major debt just trying to get through an illness (heart, cancer, etc.). Please stop this horrible treatment of our citizens. CVW
bart	woolery	CA	There is no debate that single-payer is the best way to finance healthcare. You said it yourself! We are leading you back to single-payer. Please follow our lead.

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Paul & Linda	Worthman	CA	I have unemployed family members without health insurance, and others who can't afford the premiums. You said lobbyists wouldn't make policy, but that's who's at the center of your Health Advisory. Health care is a right, not a privilege.
PAT	Wynne	CA	Health care is a basic human right like food, shelter and education. We must provide a safety net for Americans equal to that in the European Union. Let's get into the 21st century .
kurt	yamada	CA	
Gayla	Yates	CA	
David	Yomtov	CA	
Barbara	Young	CA	As a psychotherapist serving workers through their benefits, I see the desperate need for a single-payer system! Dealing with insurance companies drive me and my patients crazy!
cindy	young	CA	Very simple message for you tell America President Obama - Expand and improved Medicare for All. The cost shared equally among employers, individuals and Government. Simple message. Simple plan
Elaine	Zahnd	CA	Reforming our health care system will not only improve the nation's health, but help with economic recovery, and prevent much more expensive and costly interventions that currently are used by the millions of uninsured Americans. Let's learn from other more advanced nations in reforming health care.
Susan	Ze	CA	You promised us change and not just more of the same. Health Care for All is the one area where every American, man, woman, and child, will benefit from a change for the better. As a public school teacher, I am seeing more and more students whose families can no longer afford health care and who are not getting the care they need. causing them to miss school or simply miss out on what we are learning in class.
Adrienne	Zeigler	CA	Health care is becoming more expensive and more complicated all the time. My 39 year old son who is in good health cannot get health insurance because he takes an anti-depressant medication. Middle aged friends who have chronic diseases such as diabetes have to pay almost \$1000/mo. for insurance, and they do not even have coverage for doctor's office visits nor prescription medications. Medicare for Everyone!
Michael	Zelinski	CA	The health of the nation depends on the health of its people. Healthcare is a right that belongs in the Commons.
Harriet	Ziskin	CA	I am 75. Even with Medicare, I pay close to \$4,000 a year for health care. My care would be far more affordable without private insurance companies profiting from prescription drugs and the 20% gap (and with dental coverage).
Harry	Corsover	CO	Despite having had cancer as well as other continuing chronic health conditions, my wife and I have had to cancel our health insurance since the premiums became far too expensive for us to afford. Health care expenses have forced us into bankruptcy as well, and this should never happen to any American. Also--it makes no sense to us for health insurance to continue to be linked to employment. It puts an undue burden on employers and makes American companies unable to compete on a level playing field with foreign companies that don't have to factor in health care costs for employees and retirees.

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Susan	Hammond	CO	
Michele	Swenson	CO	The people do not deserve more policy written by corporate interests to benefit their bottom lines, like Medicare prescription drug reform. We need real, systemic reform to address degraded primary care in this country.
Rick	Wehrli	CO	
graham	wood	CO	This country can no longer afford insurance based healthcare. It is the last of the western countries to hold out on insurance. Universal healthcare is as basic a need as education and cannot be allowed to continue at the 50% over cost compared to European systems with generally better outcomes. Drug companies hold the US to ransom and currently Medicare is not allowed to negotiate on price. Medicare is being ripped off by rules tying its hand on appliances. As a so-called market economy we should be buying at the best market price. Most of the excess costs are captive in the insurance based system. The whole change could be funded by a Federal fuel tax of \$1.50 and would serve two ends. A reduction of oil consumption and actually getting health care for all.
Jing	Chen	CT	
William	Collins	CT	
Deepali	Dhar	CT	
Joelle	Fishman	CT	Health care is a human right. The only way that right can be guaranteed is to take the private profits out. Thank you.
Deborah	Hall	CT	For health and well being of our citizens to be linked to the profits of a private company is ludicrous and must end for the sake of our future.
William	Hall	CT	Ask yourself, what would any smart business do? If you had 100's of billing departments, compartmentalized operations that duplicated tasks around the nation, "middlemen" that perform no necessary function, and companies that exist for profit vs. the well being of the American Public. Watch "Sicko" - love or hate Michael Moore, but it is true. Health care is the only bad thing about America - please reorg this horribly run operation just like any smart company would do. My company had 4 offices performing duplicate functions and we consolidated to 2 offices (while keep the employment the same, but redistributed it to make it more efficient) - we saved MILLIONS. Imagine the millions that we can save and instead pay our money directly to health care. Higher taxes with elimination of health care giants would bring more money to America, while lowering costs for all. It's a no brainer. If you look at the health care companies, you will see that they themselves reorg for efficiency within their own operations - now imagine it 1,000 times more effective than that. We can really do it and now is the time. Reduced costs, increased benefits, more taxable dollars (if we reduce 30% to 4%, the government can even take a percentage!) - please, people are dying every day, when they wouldn't be in Canada or France - that's not American. Make it happen - you are the president that can do it! Bill
Win	Heimer	CT	



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Sarah	Johnson	CT	As a future physician I would like to be able to give care to all patients that need it and to be fairly compensated for doing so. Under a single payer system, everyone who needs care would have the opportunity to get it, not just those who happen to be lucky enough to be covered under the current system. Most people think that they have good health insurance until they need to use it, and then they realize how bad the current system really is. I would like us to have a system that is in the best interest of all Americans. A single-payer system could keep us all secure in knowing that if we come down with a serious medical condition, that we can all count on the health care system to take care of us.
Daniel	Kasowitz	CT	We want health care like they have in Canada. We want everyone to be covered. The Canadian system is good. We want to be covered for not just medical, but also dental, chiropractic, physiotherapy, optometrists (for regular eye exams), etc. We don't want the intervention of the large insurance companies or pharmaceutical companies. With the money you've been printing to give to the bankers and corporate executives, you can afford to provide universal health care!
Emily Frank	La Croix LaCroix	CT CT	Dear Mr. President: The debate on how to fix our health care system continues. I know you are very involved with this. I do not represent any group but I am disturbed by how one sided the discussion has become. This week we saw the reaction to changing the VA health care system. This system is the very best example of single payer we have in the United States. Single payer or socialized health care seems to be a dirty word in Washington and it shouldn't. The VA system is one and it works extremely well with low patient cost. To believe the insurance industry has the best or even the only solution is best summed up by AHIP's president, Karen Ignani's answer during a meeting in Washington where she suggested that every player in the health system -- insurance companies, doctors, hospitals and other providers -- all get together and promise to voluntarily reduce their costs in the coming year by at least 1 percent. That's all they have! No solution at all. This is clearly the opportunity for single payer for all Americans.
Joshua	Leinwand	CT	As a medical student, I am concerned that the current system will provide many of my future patients with sub-optimal care. Health care reform is necessary to allow the medical profession to fulfill its ethical obligation to provide sufficient care to all. The measure of a society's moral advancement is the extent to which it provides rights to those with the least resources. Adequate health care should be a right available to all.
Marilyn	Mackay	CT	Single payer universal health care is the only viable long-term way to go for equity of health care.
Phyllis	Pallett-Hehn	CT	This is important to me because I believe that health care is a right that all of our people should enjoy and because the health of our nation depends on the health of all of its citizens. Dependence on private insurers is not only wasteful and inefficient but also places the needs of stockholders ahead of those who are insured.
Curt Nitin	Pirry Roper	CT CT	

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Andrew	Scatola	CT	The current health care system that we have in our society is designed for failure. When people lose their jobs they inevitably lose their health insurance, which makes absolutely no sense. It's a time in their life when they are already under enough stress and dealing with enough problems. Getting sick and not having health insurance coverage while one needs it the most is a set-up for disaster and financial ruin. A universal health care system similar to Medicare would easily eliminate this flaw.
Naomi E.	Shaiken	CT	We must and should have Medicare For All and it should be a government run program, so that no one is left out without fine medical coverage.
Dena	Simmons	CT	My sister suffers from a rare and chronic illness. Without proper health care, she will continue to suffer unnecessarily. Please help the many ill people in this country receive the medical attention they need and deserve--it is a human right!
Jordan	Sloshower	CT	Providing the American people with universal access to healthcare is not only the right thing to do morally, it is necessary economically. We will never achieve true 'freedom' until this country stops preventing its most vulnerable people from achieving good health.
Marilyn	Tyszka	CT	
Audra	Weisel	CT	
Nina	Wolfson	CT	The only way to fix our health care system is with a universal, comprehensive, portable single payer health care plan.
Elliot	Zelevansky	CT	
Mary Jean	Collins	DC	
Lauren	Smith	DC	
Nancy	Wohlforth	DC	
Leon	Campbell	DE	We must keep Medicare strong as we move to a Universal Health Care Program funded by or in part funded by the Federal Government. Health Care Costs must be reduced by the providers of Health Care.
Donald	Liles	DE	We the working Americans have gave so much to help our government help others, now let the American government show us how much they can help us with a healthcare reform. Retirement is not meant to be scary, but joyful. We are at what the future holds for us. Only our government can take away the pain of not knowing what lies ahead.
Gail	Bellamy	FL	47 million Americans are uninsured and that number is growing. As the economy contracts, Americans who have had insurance through their employer are losing that insurance and then losing their jobs. Good health is a right and a responsibility. Personal responsibility cannot guarantee our good health without access to quality health care. The time to do the right thing is NOW!
Edmund	Bruno	FL	
Amy	Fendrich, M.D.	FL	I serve a medically needy population that is increasing in numbers exponentially. The country needs to provide health care for all citizens- not just for 2 ends of the financial spectrum- Thank you
Barbara	Gabriel	FL	
Mary	Garvin	FL	

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Lilo	Hoelzel-Seipp	FL	While you may want to support the often wasteful private insurance system, we must have Medicare for all pathway with buy in options for people under 65. Study the European system which has a strong private and parallel public insurance system.
Thomas	Washburn	FL	I write as your constituent and as a public health physician to advocate for single-payer universal health insurance for all Americans.
Daniel	Blumenthal	GA	
Christine	Lutz	GA	My 3-year-old grandson has cancer. Spent his first year & 1/2 in a hospital. Mom can't leave him to work for insurance. And I work for insurance, too. Brain injury, heart disease.
anthony	marsella	GA	
Cynthia	Mead	GA	As the parent of a special needs child, I know firsthand how difficult it is for Americans with any kind of pre-existing condition to get health insurance. All Americans, regardless of their health status, need access to affordable health care.
George	Pullen	GA	I am comfortably retired with good health insurance coverage. I happen to believe that everyone in this promised land should enjoy such security.
Marguerite	Rece	GA	I am on Medicare Only. It works for me, would work even better with Medicare (only) for all. Support our people and our hospitals. Get the profiteers out of our health care.
Cj	Baehr	HI	Our health care is anything but EQUAL, and for so many it is inadequate, inefficient, or completely unavailable. It shames me that in the US citizens in need of health care are so often victims of avaricious business and personal interests. Time for a new broom.
Adele	Chong	HI	The current health care system is a drag on our economy. Too many inefficiencies. Not enough acceptance of hospice for end-of-life care.
James	Cooper	HI	Health care delivery is a complex system that operates within a unique economic model that does not respond classical free market incentives. The only agent that can balance the interests of individuals, and the population as a whole is the federal government.
Lisa	Darcy	HI	We need health care that represents peoples needs not profits first. Our physician's hands are tied and their knowledge wasted when they are at the mercy of insurance companies who will decide what care is best. This is a sensible, cost effective solution. Get us out of debt and into a healthier nation! Let's get back to human rights first.
Alvin	Fuse	HI	A single payer, publicly financed and administered health plan is supported by the majority of doctors in the American College of Physicians.
Beth	Giesting	HI	Health care needs to be a human right, not a privilege for those who qualify for by categorical status or who are rich enough or lucky enough to get good private insurance. We need reform that focuses on primary care, continuity, and equity. We won't get that as long as private insurers are in the mix fighting for their profits and duplicative administrative and marketing costs.
Kawika	Liu	HI	Health is a human right, not simply healthcare. But the US needs to live up to its human rights responsibilities by at least guaranteeing healthcare for all.

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Richard	Miller	HI	Universal Medicare-style healthcare available to all is the only way to go. This must be accompanied by change in the idiotic payment system now being used and elimination of the outrageous costs of health care administration. Richard S. Miller, Prof. of Law, Emer. and former Dean, the Wm. S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Norma	Parado	HI	Although I am covered by my state-sponsored medical coverage, too many of my friends are struggling to pay outrageous monthly medical bills because they have no coverage. If they have a catastrophic illness, they will not be able to afford care. This is not right.
Amber	Rohner	HI	This is for the many patients I see in the ER who can't afford the health services to keep them healthy & out of the ER.
Carol	Titcomb	HI	This is important to me, because as a displaced worker and head of household, I am paying over \$1300 per month to maintain health insurance through COBRA. That is one-third of the average household income and an unsustainable burden on families. This is important to me, because I believe that the influence on health reform that the health care industry brings to bear is immense and improper. It is based upon the hundreds of millions of dollars spent on lobbying in congress and the tens of millions of dollars donated to campaign contributions and lavished on public relations. It is important to me that the people have a voice in this process and that the result is improved quality, accessibility and affordability of care. It is important to me as a member of an ethnic minority that we address broad disparities in health status that are unjust and unnecessary. It is important to me as a health care provider and public health researcher that we have a centralized agency that allocates precious resources to evidence-based research, the development of clinical standards, the coordination of preventive medicine and chronic care. It is important to me as a former small business owner, that employers are not asked to foot the bill for our nation's health care. By shifting the cost of health care from employers to taxpayers, we can each pay what we can afford. This will be a potent stimulus, creating 2.6 million new jobs and representing an infusion of \$317 billion into our economy. Simply eliminating the employer health benefit contribution deduction will generate \$250 million in tax revenues. It is important to me as an American that we do what is fiscally responsible and establish a national health care program that will slash administrative waste from up to 31% to less than 2% of health expenditures.
Tony	Archibald	IA	
Dina	Blanc	IA	
roger	korleski	IA	
Roger	Carter	IL	
Jim	Curry	IL	Many friends of mine have forgone seeing a doctor, afraid of what their bad news might force them to pay and even I have skipped seeing a doctor out of fear of the worst news- the cost. Everyone deserves this basic human right to health, because all other rights depend on it. As a future health professional, I want to live an practice in a country that includes everyone- no exceptions.



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Mary	Driscoll	IL	It is important to keep a public option for health care because currently a plan like Medicare is the best and least expensive health care plan we have. I also think government must keep tighter regulations on the insurance companies, drug companies, and health care providers. If other countries can be healthier for less money we can do it as well - it requires government stepping up and looking out for the interests of the people.
Gretchen	Fleming	IL	During my career I studied the inequalities in the U.S. health care system extensively, and I am convinced that we need to make health care available to all, as other developed countries have done.
Sandra	Franz	IL	The direct providers of health care and public health services should have more representation than medical care insurers - it should count for something that even the AMA (besides ALPHA, NMA, etc.) supports some form of universal coverage. Just think where we'd be if the Republican scheme to dismantle Medicare (SCHIP, Medicaid) in favor of privatized "Health Investment Accounts" in financial market instruments managed by insurance co.'s happened! Madoff's \$50 billion Ponzi scheme would have been peanuts compared to that disaster.
Alice	Furumoto-Dawson	IL	
Margaret	Huyck	IL	MEDICARE FOR ALL has been a priority for OWL (Older Women's League) since its inception more than 25 years ago. The data are clear that 30%+ administrative costs are among the real problems of our current insurance-based programs; Medicare (and even Medicaid) have much lower administrative costs. These savings will make it possible to extend care to many more people. Administrative cost savings, plus the usual fraud protections, emphasis on preventive care, group bargaining on drug prices, can make health care available for all.
Janis C.	Johnston	IL	Our country has ignored a health care crisis for families who cannot afford to have medical services. I support President Obama's plan to provide health care benefits for everyone.
William	Kirkpatrick	IL	MY CHILDREN CAN NOT AFFORD MEDICAL INSURANCE.
Peter	Orris	IL	
Madiha	Qureshi	IL	
Roy	Robinson	IL	
Rachel	Rubin, MD, MPH	IL	
Rael	Slavensky, RN, MPH, MSN	IL	
B.	Spoon	IL	Health care IS the economy, Stupid! We have an immoral, unnecessary, inefficient, overly expensive middleman keeping us divided, conquered, and from utilizing efficiencies of scale. The goals of profit-driven health insurance are perverse and contrary to ours, and they're costing us at least 101,000 innocent lives and \$350 billion wasted health care dollars every year that we let them interfere with the delivery of health care in America, and charge dearly to do it.
Donald	Zeigler, PhD	IL	The U.S. in an outlier nation. Our reliance on commercial insurance is dysfunctional, costly, frustrates HIT and quality. Piece-meal is wasteful and will only postpone real reform. We can do better. Please help make it happen.



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Darron	Brown	IN	As a practicing physician for 30 years, I believe that there is no bigger problem in the USA than the fact that many of us cannot afford health care. Things need to change now, not in 5, 10, or 20 years.
Lois	Clark	IN	This action is of utmost importance to me, as a caregiver of my husband, who has Alzheimer's (and a STRONG physical body that has withstood enough to let him live for who knows how long I will have the strength to take care of him.) I need surgery - which brings an extra problem of finding someone to take care of him during my recovery period. JUST AS IMPORTANT, AS A RETIRED PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR FOR HEAD START, I AM AS CONCERNED FOR ALL THE NATION'S CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WHO NEED HEALTH INSURANCE. Thank you for all you are doing for our country. We appreciate it. Shalom, (Wholeness and peace to you.)
edward	eggert	IN	
Elaine	Fazzaro	IN	Even with "good" insurance I have spent large blocks of my life fighting for approval of coverage for essential medical care for family members. I have had a relative die directly from refusal of care during an emergency because he was uninsured. I watch my children with good professional jobs struggle month to month to cover their medical bills. I want my grandchildren to learn about "for profit" health insurance companies by reading about them in their history books -- in the same chapter with debtors prisons and poor farms.
Milton	Fisk	IN	
Edith	Kenna	IN	HR 676 is the best model for health care reform; accessible, affordable, equitable, portable and of quality. Inclusion of private insurers guarantee no cost containment.
Jennifer	Livesay	IN	Most American families are one accident or illness away from financial ruin, even those with health insurance. We should not have to live this way.
Charlie	Northern	IN	
Kenneth	Pimple	IN	
Jackie	Rickabaugh	IN	
michael	roehrborn	IN	
Debra	Venezia	IN	My husband is lucky enough to work for the railroad, where he has good, inexpensive health care that covers me and our son as well. However, when he is retired at 60 (in 6 more years) the cost will rise significantly, and when he is 65 he will have Medicare, and I, thirteen years younger, will have to purchase my own healthcare. I am counting on the U. S. government to do the right thing and make healthcare available and affordable to all of it's citizens. Thank you.
David	Goering	KS	
norge	jerome	KS	The current system of private insurance benefits only those who are employed. There are many people who are unemployed or between employment; although eligible for COBRA, these people cannot afford the outrageously high cost of COBRA. In addition, private insurance usually demands a very high deductible. As a Medicare recipient, I know the benefits and peace of mind that come with receiving health care when I need it. This should be available to every United States citizen and legal resident. Medicare is a proven system that works.

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Gary	Marquart	KS	Everyone a need health coverage in this day and time.
Tom	McCoy	KY	
Harriette	Seiler	KY	Raised in Canada with many relatives there, I know a single payer plan works. "Medicare for all" is both a moral and economic imperative. When we need preventive care or treatment, we want a plan we can count on--a humane and equitable system, prepaid by our own tax dollars.
michael	watts	KY	everyone needs healthcare
LAWRENCE	MARTIN, JR.	LA	AFFORDABLE HEALTH IS VERY IMPORTANT TO EVERYONE. I PRAY THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS SAVE HEALTH REFORM AND EXPAND MEDICARE FOR ALL.
joelle	adlerblum	MA	Good health care for everyone, working or not, is essential. We cannot afford to have our poorer and unemployed people deprived of it, especially not at a time when unemployment is drastically increasing. Universal, single-payer health care is the only real answer. Please work to make it happen now.
Mary	Amsler	MA	as a healthcare professional for almost 40 years, I know how important it is for everyone to able to have quality healthcare regardless of their income, work status or medical history. I have seen first hand the heartbreaking consequences that occur when people are unable to get the treatment that they need. Healthcare is a basic human right.
Arlene	Ash	MA	
Jackie	Ballance	MA	I saw Sick Across America on PBS last night. A young woman in TN died from lupus because she was kicked off of Medicaid - by mistake! A family of 4 in Mass earned just too much to qualify for subsidized health coverage but they could no where near afford decent health insurance for their family. Unless ALL Americans are covered by the same comprehensive health plan, people will fall through these cracks. If universal health care is our goal, the only way to do it is with a single plan, a single payer. Polls show the majority of Americans are ready & willing to pay a tax for guaranteed coverage in lieu of paying escalating premiums, co-pays, deductibles, etc, losing care if they're laid off or going bankrupt when faced with catastrophic medical expenses. Please listen to your grassroots and support single payer health care. The time is Now.
Krystelle	Bamford	MA	
Lois	Beattie	MA	Medicare for all is the only thing that makes sense: it would cover everyone; it would be simpler for patients and doctors alike than dealing with the layered, competitive, and inequitable plans available today; and the cost would be shared by all in a fair way, at the same time relieving businesses of a burden that is surely part of our economic problems.
Merton	Bernstein	MA	
Rosa	Blumenfeld	MA	
Patricia	Bordewieck	MA	
robert	bordewieck	MA	



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Mark	Brewster	MA	There is a difference between effective and efficient. Private health care insurance is neither effective in providing universal coverage to relieve Americans of sickness and suffering, nor is it efficient in providing what coverage it does to the Americans currently covered. Expanding Medicare to all Americans would allow the insurance system to be strengthened and to fully take advantage of the principle of insurance, that the well cover the costs of the sick. By partitioning the insured population into groups of sick and healthy and giving different rates to both, the principle of insurance is compromised. The production of sickness is not located in genes or behavior alone, but is strongly influenced by factors across people's lives, a large portion of which people have little to no control over. Having a single-payer insurance system gives everyone in the society a stake in making sure that the determinants of sickness, those that can be controlled by individuals and those that cannot, are mitigated creating an economic and political impetus towards a healthier America. Thank you for your consideration and action.
Kathleen	Bridgewater	MA	The ripple effect of a strong Medicare for All system will make U.S. society financially more stable and far less stressed. Eliminate the health insurance industry. Eliminate job-related health care. Substance abuse health treatment, not prisons. Comprehensive, quality health care for all. We already pay more than enough to fund it.
Alexandra	Brown	MA	
Suzanne	Carlson	MA	Now that I have Medicare (after 24 years without health insurance), I realize everyone should have such coverage. We need a universal program like Medicare for EVERYONE!
suzanne	cashman	MA	
Jang-Ho	Cha	MA	As a physician and a biomedical researcher, I am frustrated by inefficient unjust medical care. I think that single payer would greatly improve health care for all.
Mardge	Cohen	MA	As a doctor, I believe it is essential to take the profit motive out of health care and bring quality single payer health care to this country. How many people must get sick and die before we adopt a reasonable working affordable health care system not determined by the drug industry and insurance companies
Alan	Cohen	MA	As a health policy researcher with more than 35 years of experience, I have watched health reform efforts come and go. It is time to act and we must not fail to achieve universal coverage and equitable, affordable, high-quality health care for all Americans. Expansion of the Medicare Program is the most logical way to achieve this goal. Please stand up to the special interests in the insurance, pharmaceutical and medical device industries. I salute your courage to take on this challenge and thank you for your efforts on behalf of the American people.
roger	conant	MA	Americans want choice, so give them a real choice - this way!
Perry	Conley	MA	
Andrew	Curtis	MA	
Denise	Dabney	MA	



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Eda	Daniel	MA	I have never understood how we can think of health care for all as being bad for the economy. If I did not have to worry about paying for health care I, and many other Americans, could have opened our own businesses a long time ago. Then perhaps we would not be in such a bad recession.
Annette	De Mattos	MA	
Catherine	DeLorey	MA	
Judith	Deutsch	MA	It is well past time that we stopped kowtowing to the insurance industry. We need and deserve as a right quality affordable health care for everyone in our nation. That cannot come about using the insurance industry with their high administrative costs and those they, with their huge number of forms and regulations, impose upon healthcare providers. We do not want to suffer their denial of benefits, huge premiums and high deductibles and co-pays. We people (67% of us) want a single-payer plan. Please give it to us.
Kelsey	Dicker	MA	Healthcare is a human right. President Obama & members of Congress, please stand up to the Insurance Industry and enact equitable, universal coverage. Let's learn from the rest of the world and their successful healthcare systems.
Michael	D'Intinosanto	MA	Medicare for all is the only way to guarantee that all Americans have affordable, quality health care.
Sandy	Eaton, RN	MA	We already spend enough to provide quality, comprehensive care to everyone. Let's get the parasitic corporations out of the way.
Roslyn	Feldberg	MA	We all need good quality, secure health care----for the whole of our lives. I am approaching retirement and worried that I won't be able to afford drugs when I'm ill. Our economy cannot recover until there is coverage for everyone so that employers can afford to hire more workers and know that everyone is covered. Right now, the costs of private health insurance are interfering with job creation. A public system would be much less expensive to administer. We could cover everyone and employers could afford to hire more people. My daughter graduated from college recently and is concerned about keeping a job. The costs of health insurance encourage layoffs. Instead we need to encourage job creation! Thank you.
Robert	Fine	MA	Health care should not be tied to employment or income level anymore than clean air, clean water or other necessities of life. It is a national shame that we treat our health as a commodity of trade.
colum	flaherty	MA	
Ann	Fleck-Henderson	MA	For-profit insurance companies can never be the most effective approach. Medicare works. The public sector should give middle class working people what poor and elders can get now.
Harold	Forbes	MA	Please provide a government financed program for all who choose. Expanding Medicare would move us towards a single payer, and that is the only way we can reduce our costs in the long run.



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Mary	Ford	MA	Competition between insurance plans has no added value, unlike competition in auto design, computer software, etc. The biggest, fairest, risk pool will be the cheapest, since all will be covered for the exact same things. Families, doctors, and nurses will not waste time trying to figure out what each patient's insurance covers. One small percentage tax for everyone would remove all the uneven costs from employers, state funds, households, etc. which never seem fair. Please be bold. Down here on the ground, we know it is time for this!
DARLINE	Francois	MA	When i was 6 months pregnant in 2007 i couldn't go to doctor's visit because i was uninsured and couldn't afford to pay health insurance, i had to wait until i was ready to go to labor and deliver. i would miss most of my appointment, but thanks to God that baby came out without a problem.
Yvonne	Freccero	MA	I want every child that is born to receive health care for the rest of his/her life. We need health care not health insurance.
dagmar	friedman	MA	The time is now for health care for all!
Jane C.	Gilman	MA	Health insurance companies make me sick (slogan from NH health care reform movement.) They have abused their role, driven costs sky high and interfered with care. Please come up with a reasonable, rational plan that so many are literally dying for.
GLORIA	GREEN	MA	
Valerie	Halls	MA	
John	Healey	MA	PLEASE acknowledge that the Emperor Has No Clothes! The Health Insurance Industries ARE THE PROBLEM! GET RID OF THEM...PLEASE! They add no value: do not contain cost, and in fact are the REASON why American health care costs are twice as high per capita than any other developed democracy. Please live up to your own rhetoric: The Party's Over! Do it! We're backing you up! This is our time! John Healey
Catherine	Hogan	MA	If I lose my job, I lose my health insurance. I am healthy and employed, so I do not have much to worry about. If I was sick and lost my job, I would probably lose my house. This is a potential problem for every person in this country who is under the age of 65. Something is very wrong with our system. I have been a nurse for almost 40 years and believe that many hospitals have become procedure driven. Physicians are pursuing lucrative specialties and not going into primary medicine due to the workload and poor reimbursement. There needs to be a greater emphasis on preventative medicine. I honestly don't know how some vascular surgeons are able to perform futile costly procedures on patients who are still smoking- it doesn't make any sense. Where is the oversight? This needs to be built into any "new" plan.
Peter	Huff-Rousselle	MA	
Maggie	Huff-Rousselle	MA	We need to learn from the rest of the Western nations that have so outperformed the US in terms of both cost and, much more importantly, health status. This is an opportunity for really substantial and long overdue reform. Please listen politely but pay attention to the incentives working behind those that are lobbying through self-interest for the status-quo or aspects of it.

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Margaret C.	Ives	MA	Health care is a right not a privilege. Thank you Democrats for fighting for it for all of us!
Laura	Janneck	MA	
Ellen	Kagan	MA	I am on Medicare and want everyone to have the same benefits that I have and that the Congress has.
Frank	Kashner	MA	
Sue	Kirby	MA	There is nothing more important than fixing this broken health care system.
Peter	Knowlton	MA	
Rosemary	Kofler	MA	
Nancy	Krieger	MA	It is unconscionable that the US remains the sole wealthy nation in the world that does not provide universal health insurance. The point of health care is taking care of people, not ensuring profits for the health insurance industry. Ideally, we need a single-payer universal health care system. To promote health equity, and redress current health inequities, we need an equitable health care system along with a far greater commitment to funding and supporting public health.
Dan	Lauzon	MA	We should lead the world in healthcare, yet we are far behind
Emily	Lewis	MA	Government run programs with oversight run well. Expanded Medicare will be better for the people, less expansive overall. There is no reason not to have Medicare for all except that special interests block it from happening.
Stephen	Lewis	MA	Help U.S. business compete fairly with countries who have national healthcare so that their businesses don't have to factor in healthcare costs for their workers.
Jonathan	Lipman	MA	As we near retirement, we fear not only that we will have to spend over a quarter of our income on health insurance but also that our children and grandchildren will be left unprotected. Without high quality, affordable, universal health care, none of us will be safe. Please expand the vision, take on the profiteers, and give us the same kind of protection that citizens of all other industrialized countries have.
Sonia	Lipson	MA	I do not want anyone making money off my health care premiums, give me the choice to join with others and build health care programs that serve the greater good.
Tim	Macchio	MA	
John	Maher	MA	
Leo	Maley	MA	
Ann	Malone	MA	Please listen to the voices and needs of ordinary Americans and put people before profit in heal reform! What we need is common-sense action to move us closer to an improved Medicare-For-All national health program. Thank you.
Philip	Mamber	MA	The only way that health care can be equal for everyone is to have providers paid the exact same amount for each procedure regardless of where the payment comes from. Under the new Mass. health care plan, providers now pick and choose who they take as patients based on the type of payments they get from the insurance company. And since Medicaid pays less than most insurance plans, low income patients get thrown under the bus when they try to get referrals to specialists. Only when there is one plan that pays equally for each treatment, will we have a

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fair health care system.

Arky	Markham	MA	Single Payer is the only viable, honest, democratic health care system which only the USA among all the other industrial countries fails its citizens by tolerating obscene profiteering in health.
Sarah	Marter	MA	I have Cobra coverage for the next 2 1/2 years as a result of a divorce. I am self-employed. Right now my coverage is decent and my costs are low but in 2011, I'll be 61 years old and needing private insurance. Thirty percent of my high premium will pay for advertising, excessive salaries for the insurance company executives (Should they earn more than you do?), and tactics to "torture" primary care physicians. The USA can do better. I am willing to pay more in taxes for Medicare for all because it's the right thing to do. And we can do the right thing in healthcare.
Rosemary	Mathey	MA	
Arthur	mazer	MA	
james	moura	MA	
Kathy	Mullins	MA	Please pass HR 676!
Judy	Norsigian	MA	
leslie	nyman	MA	
Don	Ogden	MA	Say it: Single Payer
Jeremy	Ogusky	MA	
Brian	O'Malley, MD	MA	As a primary care internist in a rural area, and a hospital system trustee, I can see the collapse in the safety net, as underinsurance forces more people daily to forgo health care and their medications.
Margaret	O'Malley, RN	MA	
Margaret	O'Malley, RN	MA	
james	perkins	MA	Otherwise, we just throw away money on administration (insurance), maybe 30%. Medicare works well. Let's have Medicare for all.
Ruth	Perrault	MA	I am elderly, My family is full of younger members and I wish for their health to be protected for their life now and for their futures. Thank you!
Jerome	Pollack	MA	
Carl	Proper	MA	I appreciate the political difficulty of doing the right thing -- but this is the right thing.
Beverly	Quint	MA	Health care is a right, like life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness...not a commodity.
s	Randall	MA	A single payer type national health care system is the most cost effective and humane. Do away with all for-profit insurance companies, HMOs and drug companies. Cover dental and mental health. This is what must be done!

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Lisa	Ranghelli	MA	My family pays \$300 a month just as our portion of employer-sponsored health care. We need a more efficient system that contains costs. I live in MA so I know how hard cost-containment is. The Medicare model has cost containment built in. It makes the most sense!
Douglas	Renick	MA	
Joseph	Restuccia	MA	
Robert	Reynolds	MA	With our nation's economy in a tailspin, we can't afford to squander health care dollars that don't go to direct care. In our for-profit, private insurance-, employer-sponsored model of coverage billions get wasted for administrative, marketing, overhead, and fraud which seems inherent with this system. No where else in the developed world would such a system as ours be tolerated. We have a model, Medicare, which has survived the test of time in terms of efficiency. A system which would be more successful if private industry- try intrusion (Advantage plans, Medicare D) were eliminated. We should present the best of what Medicare has to offer: choice of provider, low admin. costs, negotiated service prices, to all Americans to provide universal coverage and as an engine of job growth, at a time when our nation needs both so badly.
Marguerite	Rosenthal	MA	Please DO NOT emulate the Mass. plan. It does nothing to control the expenses associated with private insurances. Many who have been compelled to purchase insurance can't afford to use it because of high deductibles and co-pays. We really need a single payer system, but a GOOD public option will do for now.
Jeremy Warburg	Russo	MA	Please, this is so very important to older women like me.
Nancy	Sachs	MA	If not now, when?
David	Schaich	MA	
Gordon	Schiff	MA	Need a plan that automatically covers everyone and excludes no one, especially people who are sick
kate	schuettinger	MA	
Abby	Seixas	MA	
susie	shayegani	MA	
Carlos	Siqueira	MA	
Craig	Slatin	MA	Nearly 50M Americans with no health insurance, and more than that who are underinsured. Our system is costing more and more daily as we get less and less from it. The burden of chronic illness is felt in so many aspects of our society and economy - yet we can't commit to a system focused on primary prevention. Is there really any serious debate to be had here? The health of the nation versus the wealth of the few. We need equitable, quality, universal, and affordable health care now.
Martha	Slocum	MA	One in Five Americans do not have health insurance. Isn't it the responsibility of the government to ensure medical coverage for all Americans? Private insurance has attempted to solve our problem of coverage and has failed. It is time for a National Healthcare System for the U.S.



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Deborah	Socolar	MA	Everyone deserves efficient, comprehensive, publicly accountable, and affordable coverage with free choice of providers. Expanding Medicare and opening it to all Americans is the way to do that. The insurance industry adds nothing of value, wastes our scarce health dollars, and focuses on denying care, not caring for people in need.
HENRY	SOUDA	MA	THIS IS NOT JUST IMPORTANT TO ME, BUT TO EVERY AMERICAN CITIZEN! WE'VE BEEN ADVOCATING FOR THIS FOR YEARS! WHY ARE WE THE ONLY INDUSTRIALIZED NATION NOT TO HAVE IT?? AND SUPPOSEDLY THE RICHEST NATION IN THE WORLD!!!!??? OUR GREAT SEN. TED KENNEDY HAS WORN HIMSELF OUT FOR YEARS TRYING TO GET IT DONE--!! DO IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!! NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Susan	St.Clair	MA	This is so important! Medical costs are through the roof. More and more Americans cannot afford this. Thank you.
Peter	St.Clair	MA	We need affordable and universal health care now.
Diana	Stein	MA	The only way to reform health care is to break the health industrial complex and to go to a single payer system that is fair to patients and providers alike. The current system penalizes everyone--except high paid CEOs and profit takers.
leo	stolbach	MA	I am a physician who worked in Canada from '81-' 84. I was the Director of Medical Oncology at the Ottawa Civic Hospital and the Ontario Cancer Clinic in Ottawa, Ontario. In that capacity I had the opportunity to see how well a Medicare for All system worked. Please consider this approach to cover all Americans. Thank you for all your efforts to make excellent health care a priority for the entire U.S. population. Sincerely, Leo Stolbach, MD
Barbara	Sullivan	MA	
Alice	Swift	MA	Only a single publicly funded health care system will provide quality health care for everyone at less cost than we pay now. Doctors and hospitals will remain private, non-profit. Patients will have choice of doctor. We pay around 35% extra for administrative costs, advertising, CEO salaries, etc. We must do away with that.
Tillyruth	Teixeira	MA	
Rene	Theberge	MA	
Jon	Weissman	MA	
Rand	Wilson	MA	
Bradley	Winter	MA	Health care for everyone is one of the most important issues of our time. No one should have to go without proper care.
MaryLou	Wittig	MA	
Denise	Zwahlen	MA	Living in Massachusetts where HR 58 was enacted 2 years ago, I know first hand that half solutions that don't challenge the private insurances, the drug companies and the hospitals' private interests and don't offer an expanded Medicare system for all are doomed.
Michael	Brandes	MD	
gene	bruskin	MD	
Stephen	D'Adamo	MD	Now is really the time.

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Max	Fine	MD	As the sole surviving member of President Kennedy's Medicare task force, I know that Medicare was conceived as a humanitarian program, and as such should be available to all.
Dr. Margaret	Flowers	MD	Patients and physicians want a national health program that includes everyone. We want publicly financed and privately delivered care. We want investor-owned private insurance corporations to stop profiting off the suffering and deaths of thousands of people living in the United States. We look to you for leadership and change and real health care reform: Medicare for All.
carl	gentile	MD	Nationalize health care
Linda	Green	MD	
Molly	Hauck	MD	Everyone deserves healthcare, and a single payer model is the most free of the profit motive. Managed care is the most destructive thing to happen to the health care system, and must be kept out of a new one.
Marcia	Jackson	MD	private health insurers frequently deny delay and/or diminish payment for subscribers' needed medical services. These corrupt and abusive practices can only be eliminated by taking the profit motive out of health insurance.
Linda	Larson	MD	THIS LETTER SAYS IT ALL. It's time. How many families do you know who have NOT been affected by our cruel health care system? Please do not fall for the prescription companies attempts to appear co-operative with health care reform that they know is coming and coming soon. The fat paydays and outright cruelty they have demonstrated is not what my America is all about. We are supposed to take care of each other. No one chooses to be sick or injured. For one thing, the "boomers" will begin falling apart very soon. We are still, very much the majority of the population. These companies pay top dollar to Doctors to decline patients care as a matter of course. Some even have contests and quotas. Forget it if you have one of well over 100 preexisting conditions. Not only will they not pay but you probably will not be able to get insurance at all. Or you will lose what you do have. This is America. We can do anything. Look at virtually every other civilized (and many not so civilized) country and see how they deal with this issue. Medicare administrative costs are about a little more than one/tenth of those of private insurers. Why? This problem is very tied to our current economic woes. Which, in a way , is fortunate because now we HAVE to fix this badly broken system NOW . It is cruel and unusual punishment, torture, if you will, to get sick, then humiliated when treatment is denied over and over and over. When insurers won't pay, the patient may go bankrupt and, due to all of this, die anyway. This after years of saving and doing everything right but getting say, breast cancer that runs in the family. We need a great new positive name for our new health care system. Young Doctors have about \$250,000 to pay back for their education, and probably have a young family to support. Therefore they have to make it up somehow. But THAT'S NOT WHY THEY BECAME DOCTORS. Most did just to help people. I have spoken to many of them, and they don't need to be rich, they just need to pay for their education and pay the premiums to protect against lawsuits. The miracle is that the medical profession is finally joining the health care reform movement in droves. They know. See what the AMA said in the 1950's about "socialized medicine; "that means we will have to take care

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of EVERYONE.". Oh no, not that! Please watch "Sicko" even if you have before. It is easy, comprehensive, and I'll bet you can squeeze it in. It will seem like a different film if you saw it years ago. Things are worse now, than when it was made. We pay more and get less. Some folks lose their jobs due to the economy, and health care insurance with it. Stop medical lawsuit abuse. Why can't you EVER sue an HMO? I will be at the Rayburn Bldg on April 1 for the second forum on health care. Please, get a report on it, or better yet attend if you find out in time. Send your LA. President Obama and State Senators, It's now up to you. We can do this. I know we can and will. BTW, I am just an average citizen, just a bit of a social activist. I have worked for my fellow man at no cost, every chance I get, all of my life. Let's wrap this up in 6 months, OK?

William	Miller	MD	
karen	Montgomery	MD	As a private citizen and an elected official, we need all US citizens to have accessible, affordable health care
Carolyn	Mullen	MD	
Jason	O'Neal	MD	
Janine	Paris	MD	Single payer sound right to me, a normal wife and mother ... mother of an "invincible" 23-year-old who doesn't think he needs health care!
michael	rodden	MD	Health care costs are killing the working man. The industry is stacked with bureaucracy whose sole intent is to make a huge profit.
Berenice	Rushovich	MD	
Daniel	Safer	MD	Everyone in the U.S. should be covered by health insurance. Ultimately, the cost of private health-care should be unlinked from being an untaxed fringe benefit from salaries.
Luisa	Saffiotti	MD	
Patricia	Salomon Rodriguez	MD	We cannot accept solutions that bilk the government and create poor people systems. We all need to be in the same system of care. That means the well subsidize the sick, until our turn comes when we each need some care. Efficient, and humane, and loved by people and clinicians wherever it has been created.
Steve	Stearn	MD	Healthcare is not a benefit for the rich, it's a right for all peoples. If universal healthcare can work and thrive in other countries it can work here too. We have to want it to work, for us, for our children, for the health of our nation. Elections were decided around this question. Just as there will be other elections, there can be other legislative leaders elected.
Neshat	Tebyanian	MD	Please ensure that this reform has regulations that prevent members of government from having interest in the pharmaceutical and health care sector. This is a clear conflict of interest and simply disclosing it no longer works. Let's for once let the average sick person and their provider have a bit less red tape and the special interest groups a bit more. I am a Nurse Practitioner who is frustrated each time I attempt to implement an evidence-based approach to my care and am told by the insurance companies that the patient has to first fail the cheaper options first. This delays treatment that the experienced provider knows will work, and ultimately costs DALYS.

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Laszlo	Trzkovich	MD	
JOHN A	WRIGHT SR.	MD	
julie	zito	MD	A long literature exists showing empirical evidence that single payer is the way to go.
Tim	Baehr	ME	I am on Medicare; my wife is in a retiree "access only" plan, which means we pay nearly the entire premium. We also have long-term care insurance. We are paying \$11,000 in medical premiums, \$5000 in long-term care premiums, and \$4000 in co-pays. This is between a quarter and a half of our pretax income, depending on how the stock market is doing.
Catherine	Bunker	ME	I am a registered nurse who sees everyday real life examples of our national inability to care for our citizens' health. If we are to be a great nation again we have to get healthcare right. We need Medicare for All-- Everybody in, nobody out.
Leo	Caron	ME	With healthcare costs on the rise beyond our means there is no greater gift the United States can give to its own people than the gift of life.
Eileen	Channer	ME	We Americans must provide health care services equal in quality to the best provided by the other developed countries in Europe and elsewhere. Our system is an absolute disgrace. In other countries it is illegal to refuse health care to those needing care. DO IT!!!!
David	Gallup	ME	
Bill	Jose	ME	
polly	keller	ME	
Robert	Kohl	ME	We've been on the brink of a national health program for almost all of my 35 years in public health. I've come to believe that a federal component to a universal health plan is essential to set the tone for innovations in reimbursing for quality care, access to care and cost containment. Private insurers never have been able to act in the public's best interest. Hoping they will lead the required transformation is naive.
Ann	Landsberg	ME	In my long social service career I have seen far too many families who could not afford to cover their children's medical costs, and so had to do without appropriate medical treatment. I have seen parents who opted to insure their children but not themselves. A relative of mine alternates dental coverage for her two children so that each kid gets some care. Mostly she prays that they need no dental or medical care. The system is beyond broken and needs a radical restructuring. None of this tinkering at the edges. Please do whatever you can to help the American people afford basic, decent medical and dental care. Oh, and let's not forget mental health care either while we're at it! Thank you.
Martha	Marques	ME	I have been waiting for universal health care since the 1970's when my chronic condition caused my health care to "fall between the cracks" of the Health Care Industry. I am still waiting.
Wayne	Myers MD	ME	For-profit "insurance" companies push up health care costs in several ways to increase their profits. There is no place for this parasitism in health care.
Laurel	Schwingel	ME	



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Kate	Barald	MI	During the years my son has been a graduate student in Mathematics (since he turned 24 and was not eligible for health care coverage under my or my husband's plan at work) , he (from money he earned in the summers) and we have contributed over \$16,000 a year to his "in state" tuition and \$437 a month for his health care. My husband is retired. I am carrying the burden of my family's health care and other support. Although my husband's health care costs are easy to cover, my son's costs are over \$5,000 a year. Together with his tuition, this means that we are paying more than \$21,000 while he educates himself to contribute to much needed science and math teaching. None of us became scientists (my husband is a retired chemist, and I have a joint appointment in the Medical School and Engineering college) because we expected to become wealthy. I earn a good wage, but it is not large compared to those in the private sector. We live in Michigan, which has been disproportionately affected by the recession. Two of my graduate students have spouses who work for the automotive industry. They wait every day to hear whether their husbands still have a job and health care coverage. Each has two children.
Irene	Bayer	MI	As a public health worker, mother, and daughter, I see community members from low income communities as well as co-workers and family members right there between the rock and the hard place every day. I support your efforts to solve health care costs now as part of the economic recovery and an investment in our nation's future.
mary	beyer-diebold	MI	My children will never have the coverage provided by employers. The lack of high paying work will always plague the younger generation. All my children graduated from college and can not find work that pays enough to afford paying their own health care cost. One son had to declare bankruptcy due to medical bills. Now work is difficult to get because employers check credit ratings, so it is a down hill slope for young people today. We need to help our young people get a start in life.
Valerie	Carey	MI	Americans are unhappier than people in Canada, Britain or France with their current health care system. And with good reason --it's a two-tiered, unequal system that is focused on sickness, not health. Health and care should not be for-profit, and we have absolutely no use for insurance companies. We share and support you in your bold and broad vision of equality of all people our nation, and urge you not to abandon this important opportunity for significant change in quality of life for everyone. Thank you!!!
Mimi	Chapman	MI	
Alison	Geist	MI	
Mark	Gowing	MI	This process is important to me because it actually provides an opportunity for every voice to be heard and understood. It also provides the opportunity to fully understand the issues, what is at stake, as well as being able to hear opposing opinions.
Ella	Greene-Moton	MI	
Richard	Lichtenstein	MI	All Americans deserve a certain level of health care. We can also accent some responsibility and try to maintain healthier lifestyles. Some people have no choice in the diseases they have been given.
Kathryn	Maynard	MI	

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James	Mitchiner. MD	MI	
Nancy	Pitkavish	MI	With my being permanently disabled and my husband retired, we can't pay bills, get food/necessities, and still afford our medications etc. My co-pay alone on prescriptions is over 110\$, this doesn't cover doctor visits, tests done and so forth. There are many elderly, disabled, senior citizens who have worked their entire lives and contributed to Medicare, income taxes and more who feel that we are no longer going to receive the aid we need. Please help the poor, disabled, elderly, and whomever else needs--not just wants--health insurance.
Jack	Poma	MI	50 Million people need coverage NOW! I know - I'm a nurse and an ER Director. We need national health care coverage for EVERYONE. Thank you.
John michael	Romani schippani	MI MI	US auto workers pay for health care in collective bargaining and the companies are responsible for providing it, putting health care costs on their books and leaving them at an enormous disadvantage to European and Asian-based firms that have government support for care. We need Medicare for all to save US manufacturing.
Janice	Werbinski	MI	I am a physician and I don't see any other solution except single-party payor with ELIMINATION of the current private insurance network, which is discriminatory, and milks profits off the top to fund too highly-paid CEOs.
joel	albers	MN	I am a pharmacist of nearly 25 years. The health insurance industry has turned pharmacists into their administrative appendages: we do the billing, claims processing, determine eligibility, and program computers for them, without pay. We want to be health care patient care practitioners, the ultimate reason for the professional existence of pharmacists and other practitioners. A Medicare for All single-payer can solve this crisis.
Ward	Bauman	MN	It's a disgrace that Americans, wealthy and educated as we are, neglect to understand that health care should be and can be universally offered to every man, woman and child!
Diana	Burgess	MN	equitable, quality and universal health care is key to our success as a nation. And it is the ethical thing to do. I urge you to expand Medicare for all.
Karli Bruce	Gasteazoro Glover	MN MN	Universal affordable health care for all should have been done in the 1st "new deal" it is now long overdue and is making our country sick and our business unable to compete in the world. Please act now . thank you
Stephanie	Hernandez	MN	Because I am a graduate student who has lost her graduate assistantship because of university budget cuts. With that assistantship goes my insurance as well as my husband's.
Marilyn	Kennedy	MN	There is nothing as basic as health care. When the least of us suffers ill health, we all suffer--in one way or another. Many, many persons cannot afford health care, particularly those who are unemployed. As long as insurance is tied to employment status, that will always be the case.



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Mara	Martinson	MN	After graduating from college, I pursued a career in adult education. For over a year I was not eligible for health benefits, and I was unable to pay the high costs of health insurance. This time filled me with anxiety and was a gamble with my future. Today, as an adult educator, I see most of my students in the position I was once in. I know universal healthcare is the truly American way to protect all people from future financial and/or medical disaster.
Karen	Nelson	MN	everyone deserves COMPLETE health care!
Tom	Sura	MN	Medical costs are through the roof. More and more Americans cannot afford insurance.
Tricia	Todd	MN	
Patricia	Vessey	MN	Experiencing firsthand relatives and friends who no longer have medical insurance and the burden for all. It's unthinkable that this could exist in our great country
Gary	Benham	MO	
Charles	Forbes	MO	
Steven	Hollis	MO	The most ridiculous and wasteful component of the current health care system is the insurance companies. My current insurance company has been sending money to my provider, more than once for the same service that I paid for at the time of service. The provider sends it back. I spend hours on the phone trying to get the problem resolved. They do it again. I'm still screwed. Get rid of the insurance companies!
Charlotte	Hopwood	MO	I cannot afford the high medical bills and prescriptions.
Frank	Johnson	MO	I am a surgeon and have been interested in changing the US health care system for a long time. Creating an accessible, affordable health care system with universal access and funded by the public is the single most important way to improve the health of the citizens in this country. This conclusion has been reached by the Institute of Medicine and many other relevant organizations.
Richard	Rosing	MO	
John	bower	MS	
Ninia	Baehr	MT	Its is time for a single payer publicly financed health care system that covers everyone in this country. Please don't stop short of this!
Brenly	Rowland	MT	
Pat	Tucker	MT	My husband and I are self employed and also do a lot of community service. The impossibility of accessing affordable health care is making it nearly impossible to spend the time we would like helping others who are more unfortunate than ourselves. If service is truly a back bone of our nation then people willing to serve need affordable healthcare
Trude	Bennett	NC	
Ann T.	Berry	NC	I must have written 30 editorials favoring single-payer health care in the 1990s. The need was obvious long before that--virtually all my adult life, and I'm almost 80. How long must we suffer and pay for the privilege of ignoring the obvious?



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Donna	Biederman	NC	Could we please start referring to medical care coverage as "Medical Care" rather than health care - and view it as what is needed when health fails. I believe medical care coverage is a right every American should have. I would also like to see substantial effort put towards addressing social determinants of health.
Arthur	Bonito	NC	We need a Medicare-like publicly financed plan for everyone in the US that cannot be lost with downturns in the economy and that can effectively keep a lid on health care costs while promoting efficiency and quality.
Eileen	Ciesco	NC	This is long overdue. Please, for the health of the nation, seriously consider this proposal!
louis	ciesco	NC	Please do all you can to transform our system providing all Americans the opportunity for quality health care.
Elaine	Crovitz	NC	
Mary	Eldridge	NC	I have lived through private insurance and now have Medicare. Having a publicly funded and managed system will not only save money that can be used to cover additional people. It will simplify dealing with billing for both providers and recipients of services.
Sharon	Goldenberg	NC	A single payer health plan for all would assist my small business to be more competitive. I currently provide health care for 50 people working for me. The costs only keep rising.
Charles	Humble	NC	Providing basic health care for all is a moral, prudent and economically enlightened thing for any government to do.
Stephen	James	NC	
Lucile	Keenan	NC	I have a friend that lost her insurance when her company went bankrupt. Then she couldn't get re-insured for anything she has been treated for, in her case all reproductive organs as she had fibroids.
Mary	Kilburn	NC	
Beth	Lamanna	NC	Universal health care coverage and comprehensive health reform, emphasizing prevention and social reform of our "unhealthy" social and economic structure are essential to the future of the US. Personal health behavior change is only one step. Major social policy change and changes in the built environment are required if people can have a chance to change their behavior.
slater	Newman	NC	
Shirley	Rust	NC	
Carol	Shores	NC	The only way health care reform will really cover everyone is to make a plan for everybody in, nobody out!
Lori	Skinner-Campbell, RN	NC	This is important to me because I work with the uninsured and underinsured individuals and I see first hand what the impact of not having adequate health can do.
Sarah	Smiley	NC	
Allen	Hohbein	ND	current medical coverage fails the country. Whether an individual is covered by group insurance or not, the cost of insurance policies is excessive, and is not likely to get better unless the country's policies towards its medical coverage for its citizens changes. We need change.
Nicole	Saur	ND	

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Judith	Johnson	NE	
Rollin	McDuffee	NE	I pay my own insurance and with two "pre existing " on my policy I'm stuck with this insurance company until I can go on Medicare. That's another 12 years away and the costs go up every year. I'm on a fixed income on a railroad disability and soon I'm going to have to drop my plan.
Gerald	Spencer	NE	
Phillip	Hunt	NH	I have had the best of health plans and I have struggled to pay for COBRA plans that consume a weeks worth of unemployment compensation. I have encountered hidden clauses, dead phone numbers, not-my-department-could-you-provide-more-information runarounds, and bureaucratic ignorance in trying to get reimbursements even under good health plans. Keeping your family healthy and safe should be part of life, not a second job. Loss of or uncertainty about health care coverage creates personal and family stresses and promotes decisions to not treat conditions that ultimately degrade our health. It is time health care became a right in America so that we move on to creating progress rather than playing bureaucratic rope-a-dope. Phillip R. Hunt, CIH, Sc.D.
Morteza	Aabdollah	NJ	To control cost, a publicly financed and administered health care plan is needed.
Donna	Axel	NJ	
Shirley	Bartido	NJ	Healthcare is a birthright not a luxury to be enjoyed by the wealthy.
Sandor	Caplan	NJ	
Stephanie	Cash	NJ	This is long overdue. The scare tactic of holding up the worst in UK health care as the example of what we'd get is vicious and inexcusable - in the last year I've had colleagues from both the UK and the US who work in France tell me how lucky they were to get sick in France instead of the UK or US, because in the UK or US they'd be dead.
Matthew	Caulfield	NJ	
Betty	Chung	NJ	This is important to me because I do not want to see others, who like my parents did, who have to wait until they are at an age eligible to receive Medicare before they can start treating their health problems because they cannot afford health insurance.
sara	dodd	NJ	
Bud	Feder	NJ	
Carol	Gay	NJ	This is the most efficient, economical, and sensible way to go. The current health care system is far too burdensome, doesn't cover everybody, and is far too costly as well. Medicare for all NOW!
John	Glasel	NJ	Do not mandate purchase of private insurance. The industry's cynical proposal to insure patients regardless of health history/status in exchange for a mandate should be ignored.
Gail	Gordon	NJ	I have a daughter who is soon to be on her own and I am worried that she will not find a job that provides health insurance.
Bill	Henning	NJ	Even those of us who have health insurance too often find out when we go to use it we are not adequately insured. Too many financial crises and bankruptcies occur as a result. We need a comprehensive plan-- everybody in, nobody out.
Brandi	Herring	NJ	

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EQUAL Health ♦ *Equitable Quality Universal Affordable*

Petition to Save Health Reform - Expand Medicare for All

April 6, 2009

Helen	Hoch	NJ	As a long time health care volunteer and hospital board member, I strongly support equitable health care for all Americans. The system no longer works well for anyone, providers and patients alike.
Russell	Holstein	NJ	A payer plan using the "Balanced Choice" www.balancedchoicehealthcare.org/ plan design is the best solution to the health care crisis.
Sheila	Kirven	NJ	
Aida	Lopez	NJ	
Michael	Moore	NJ	
Alan	Myers	NJ	
Marcia	Pinkett-Heller	NJ	We should not still be debating the issue of health care for all of our citizens. This is something that a humane society provides.
samuel	platizky	NJ	I don't have health care. I have terrible vision, bad skin, and I get frequent headaches but if I see someone about it costs me an arm and a leg. As a college graduate I don't make nearly enough and the job I have doesn't have me on a plan.
Jane	Rao	NJ	Everybody gets sick in a life time. Healthcare is not luxury but necessity. So far about 10-15% population without health insurance. With proper management of cost control, health education and good habit, universal healthcare is possible. Healthcare coverage indicates a nation's development as a part of social security.
Robert	Sarch	NJ	It is important to every family, working person, and the average U.S. citizen. Giving the insurance companies total control is like giving an arsonist matches!
Shlomit Keren	Stein	NJ	
Connie	Yu	NJ	
Jordan	Zaretsky	NJ	
Stefany	Burrowes	NM	As a former Health Care Services Administrator, I can attest to the failure of the current private health insurance debacle. Please, do not allow the insurance companies to dominate or direct the discussions and decisions related to health care reform. Their self interest combined with the power they wield is an egregious abuse of the democratic process. Give the power and universal health care back to the people.
Judith	Costlow	NM	
Raphael	Filipi	NM	I work as a per diem employee and health care is too expensive for me. If I get sick, I lose everything and the government will have to support me. I have no family to support me. Please fix this.
Constance	Fisher	NM	Being an acupuncturist and Doctor of Oriental Medicine, I know how much alternative and complimentary approaches matter in health care.
Neil A, Laurence	Holtzman Jacobs MD	NM	To have a humane, effective, comprehensive health care system, we must remove the profit motive. A single-payer system coupled with preservation of choice of provider represents our best hope for achieving universal quality coverage, and, just as importantly, constraining costs.
Judith	McCarthy	NM	The U.S. currently spends more on health care than any industrialized nation, yet more people lack health care than in many so-called third world

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countries.

Louise	Miller	NM	Actually, we need a single payer healthcare system in the US. I've been without coverage for 6 years. Scary!!!
stephen	moftat	NM	This is our one great opportunity to make a change in a system that has become way too entrenched, costs way too much, and disserves the people who are paying for it
William B	Pratt	NM	The present health care insurance arrangement is wasteful.
Deborah	Samuels	NM	I am on a fixed income and my private insurance has doubled in the last four years, which I cannot afford. My mother, on Medicare and a supplemental gets good health care. It should be available to all of us who have no employer to cover our insurance.
Barbara	Starfield	NM	
Sherleta	Gambrell	NV	No one should ever have to decide whether they can "afford" Medical Attention. No matter what the severity of the condition is, from the common cold to cancer.
Darliene	Howell	NV	
Peggy	Howell	NV	Within less than a year after losing my job and healthcare coverage, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Because I am not indigent and share a home with a family member, I did not qualify for assistance from anyone. I had to personally cover all tests and procedures by putting everything on my "high interest" credit card. As if cancer is not bad enough, I had to struggle with the fact that I had huge medical expenses to cover and no job! As a responsible tax paying citizen all my life, I don't think this should have happened to me or should ever happen to anyone again. We need to reform our system. We need to find a way to get these costs off the backs of citizens who need help. Please fight for us!
Monique	Little	NV	As a young woman seeking to find my way in this world that seems to be self destructive, I believe that health care is one thing that any human being should NOT have to struggle to obtain. We come to this world to make a difference and make our only world a better more enjoyable place, with the benefits that every natural resource has been provided to us to survive with only the basics. but with the fast paced culture in which we currently reside, we are now reliable on man made things because there is no longer space to be self efficient. Without our health we have nothing and we shouldn't have to go without because we choose to continue growth in other aspects of life.
Stephanie	Agurkis	NY	My name is Stephanie, I'm married and 29 years old. I am a tax payer. I go to school, I work and contribute to my community. I am uninsured and I live with a kidney disease. We cannot afford a plan for me. Not to mention my pre-existing disease would not be covered anyway. My husband and I make too much money for me to receive any aid, even though I am a student. I support single payer healthcare. I support equal access to healthcare.
Ralph	Alvarez	NY	
Judith	Antrobus	NY	
Lucia	Armstrong	NY	We can't continue with a huge percentage of our population uncovered and undercovered. Help us get quality health care for all.

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Stewart	Auyash	NY	President Obama, You stated yourself years ago that a Medicare for All type - single payer plan made the best sense for the US people and our economy. The timing is perfect. Please remember your earlier words.
Peter	Barland	NY	While I am a physician who would prefer to see a single payer as a real reform measure the least we can provide is a public option.
Ed	Bender	NY	We cannot afford to continue with a healthcare system that is focused on profits over patients. Regardless of the human rights issues it presents, it costs us \$360 billion dollars each year to cover the costs associated with the multitude of companies, each with their own administrative needs. That's money that could help to cover all Americans, and the time has come to ensure that all are insured. Thank you.
William	Bennison	NY	This is extremely important to me as there are too many people that fall into the cracks and are not covered. We are our brother and sisters keeper when they cannot acquire this vital care for themselves and their families.
Erika	Blacksher	NY	
John	Bliss	NY	
Sharon	Brennan	NY	
Francine	Brewer	NY	It will be impossible to reduce health care costs if the insurance industry remains in place. They are motivated by profits and their stock price. Their emphasis is on protecting CEO's and other highly paid executives. The health and well being of the insured is of little concern to them. They want to insure only the healthy and low risk people. Even though their spokeswoman is saying something else now, they will never give up profits as they must. They have to reduce administrative costs drastically. I can't see that happening any time soon. Their business model does not work for health care. Let's get a public plan alternative and see how the insurance companies do against it. After all, isn't America about competition?
Calla	Brown	NY	I am a third year medical student in Rochester, NY. I have been appalled at the lack of access to health care of many members of the community here, and that problem is particularly troubling in the inner city. Hard working people who are working 2 to 3 part time jobs to provide for themselves and their children are unable to provide health care to their families. Even with children being insured under NY state's plan, parents are going without medical care. Please address this problem.
David	Byrom, Ph.D.	NY	As a reform advocate, and a practicing psychologist, changing U.S. healthcare economics must include specific elements that protect access, choice, privacy and quality in the area of mental health and substance abuse services We must support the Institute of Medicine principles for health care reform which call for: *Health care coverage should be universal. *Health care coverage should be continuous. *Health care coverage should be affordable to individuals and families. *The health insurance strategy should be affordable and sustainable for society. *Health insurance should enhance health and well-being by promoting access to high-quality care that is effective, efficient, safe, timely, patient-centered, and equitable.



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Christopher	Calderhead	NY	It is inexcusable that we have a hodge-podge of jury-rigged programs to provide health care in this country. Even those with insurance consistently have to battle their insurers to make sure their medical needs are covered. It's time to end this completely dysfunctional system. We spend more per capita on health care than other industrialized nations, yet our outcomes are consistently low-ranking in comparison to others'. As a nation, we are already providing more funding to health than anyone else. Let's direct those funds to a simple, straightforward medical system that covers everyone.
Reinaldo	Cardona	NY	Many of the people that social workers serve lack health insurance which in turn makes it difficult to help them. It is important that social workers have the tools that they need to help people in need.
Ann	Cawley	NY	
Felicia	Cerini	NY	Medicare for all will help individuals and the country compete in a global economy. It's a very important piece of America's recovery.
Caitlin	Chandonnet	NY	As a student at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, the notion of equal access in public health and especially healthcare reform should be on the forefront of all healthcare policy and management initiatives...
Andrea	Christopher	NY	
Dr. Nancy	Ciavarrri	NY	Healthcare must become part of our infrastructure if we are to provide reasonable health care services (including preventive care) to all members of our society. Medicine does not belong in the "marketplace" where then only those with the highest standard of living can afford it. Yet I believe we need creative and thoughtful ways to use health care dollars responsibly and efficiently, and to realize that we all share in this problem and its solution.
Alison	Clarke	NY	Until I had Medicare, I had no health insurance because I worked for peace and Justice , community-school gardens and sustainable agriculture/communities. Now I try to be healthy, swim, work doing elder care (I'm 75) and volunteer promoting NY Small Scale Food Processors' Assn., Center for Sustainable Living workshops, and Canandaigua Lake Assn. (trying to save the Finger Lakes from terrible development. All people should have basic preventive health care without question.
Priscilla	Clickstein	NY	Underserved and under or non insured children, elderly, chronically ill have the right to good health care.
Toni	Coffee	NY	
Alice	Colby	NY	
Amy	Colley	NY	
James	Collins	NY	Only with a PUBLICLY FUNDED health program available to all with private insurers be forced to become efficient while providing all necessary services at a cost affordable to the nation.
Noreen	Connell	NY	Health care is a human right. Our current profit-making system has made us less healthy and poorer as a nation. We already have a public health system--and it should be expanded to cover all Americans.
mae doris	corrigan	NY	

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Linda	Culliton	NY	With the loss of major automotive companies health care benefits, my family has gone from having reliable health care, to having to pay for our own, at a cost of over \$1800/month for all 5 of us. Who can afford that? Our young people, ages 19 to 28 are being forced off medical plans, can't find jobs yet can't be insured under their parents plans. Please keep up the good work
Judith	Davis	NY	
Ina	DeSoto	NY	
Mary	Dewar	NY	The only answer to universal quality health care and cost savings is a single payer plan, Medicare for All with no private for profit industry involved.
Tony	DiMarco	NY	Health care is the most essential human right that is necessary for our lives and our economic sustainability.
Margaret	Dimond	NY	
Christine	Doolittle	NY	
Patricia	Dowds	NY	I voted for CHANGE. Public Health Care is a big part of necessary change.
Joyce	Edward	NY	Until we get rid of corporate health care and the huge profits to be made from limiting services to those in need, we will be unable to assure the health of our nation.
Rebecca	Elgie	NY	I work full time as a retired teacher to help change our broken health care system because I see daily how many people are going without adequate care and our children go without needed care until they are forced to seek help in the emergency room.
dana	elyachar-stahl	NY	Universal and affordable healthcare to all Americans is necessary. Restructuring our taxes may help to provide care. Healthy Americans are working Americans.
Timothy	Engstr�m	NY	Please do what makes both the most economic and moral sense: a single-payer system is unequivocally the most successful on both scores.
shaun	finch	NY	dear mr president..during theses times i think that a more efficient health care system is so important for the lower level income families of this great nation. there has to be a change in thinking that the health care system is only for the well off. thank you
carol	Fleres	NY	Health care must be available to all citizens, not just those who can afford it.
Barbara	Fontana	NY	
Selma	Fortoul	NY	
Elaine	Fox	NY	I practiced primary care general internal medicine for 17 years. Only Medicare provided access equally to patients, was affordable, accountable. Private insurance no longer makes care accessible and thousands of people die each year because they are un- and under-insured. I can no longer practice in our current non-system.
Gillian	Frasier	NY	
Lillian	g	NY	



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James	Gaden	NY	Now is the time to do what is in the best interest of all the citizens of the United States by creating a single payor, universal system. Simplify the health care nightmare which has developed under the current insurer market. Remove the profits from health care by eliminating \$400 billion of administrative waste. Give control of health care back to the people who pay for it thru taxes, out of benefits in lieu of salary, and from copays and deductibles. The present insurer driven market has failed in three ways: they have not controlled costs, they have not improved quality, and they have not decreased the number of uninsured. Health care is a basic human right. It is not a commodity to be leveraged to reap profits for the insurance executives. Unless you allow patients, doctors and others who provide care to create a system which truly does what it was meant to do, any other attempt will not work. It is well past the time to do the right thing and provide equitable, quality, affordable universal health care now.
Jay	Gassman	NY	
Martin	Gittelman	NY	America needs to have a first class health system. we need to catch up with other countries which lead in life expectancy infant mortality, disparities, etc. Let us also have a campaign to end tobacco addiction in America. Raising taxes on tobacco saves lives. Let us educate our children that tobacco addiction is a form of bondage to the tobacco companies. We can change, Yes we can!
martin	gittelman	NY	America needs to be among the ranks of nations that respect human Rights and the right to life. Because of our dysfunctional health system American life expectancy lags behind all European nations and Japan. We need to be among the first in health care.
Ronald L	Gittins Jr	NY	
Deborah	Glick	NY	Health care is crucial and our economic vitality has been diminished by the lack of a national health policy. It a major part of the failure of our industries and if we are to retain a decent standard of living- we need Medicare for all. The insurance industry is about preventing access to care and denying claims.
Helaine	Gold	NY	
Frank	Goldsmith	NY	
Ann	Gracer	NY	
Elizabeth	Guthrie	NY	
Jill	Hamberg	NY	
Jill	Hearn	NY	Dear President Obama, Congressman Michael Arcuri and Congress: Please see that quality, single-payer health care is extended to all Americans. Aside from providing much-needed health care to Americans who do not have it, such a measure would greatly help the market by relieving corporations of their burden to pay health-care benefits to employees, and would encourage them to stay within our borders. We are the most powerful country on earth, yet, we rank very low in infant-mortality rates and overall health compared to other developed countries. That's shameful, and no doubt due, in part, to the fact that many Americans are under a great deal of stress for lack of health-care coverage. Please, do the right thing, help to recover our dignity, and cover the American people. Thanks for all your hard work. Sincerely, Jill Hearn Cortland, NY

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Susie	Hoffman	NY	
Carole	Hoffman	NY	
Peter	Hogness	NY	A public plan, available to all, is a "must" for real health care reform. Without a public plan, the private insurance industry will feel no pressure to really cut costs.
harris	hordon	NY	
Cynthia	Hosay	NY	
Andy	Humm	NY	It's now or never. Let's get this done.
Stuart A	Hurlburt Jr.	NY	
Audrey	Jacobson	NY	
Debra	Jenks	NY	Health care should be a right of every citizen, not a profit-making business. Whether or not one gets the care they need, should not depend on being able to afford it. Why is one of the richest nations in the world, not taking care of it's people? Even a poor country like Cuba provides universal health care. I support HR 676, and I assure you, most working people do too. Your current plan simply does not go far enough. A single-payer plan would not only save billions in health care costs (to employers who could then be able to hire more people, and to health care facilities who could concentrate on the job of providing the best health care), it would make us more competitive in the global market. Eliminate the middle man (insurance companies) who are profiting off of not providing needed services. We need universal health care and we need it now! No more bailouts to bankers for big bonuses to CEO's. Let's get our priorities straight and invest in working people. Yours sincerely, Debra Jenks Adjunct Professor of Art New Jersey City University
Judith	Kapner	NY	
John	Kastan	NY	Building on one four healthcare treasures, Medicare, makes good sense - in terms of health access and quality and in terms of health economics. There's no good reason not to proceed.
JAMES	KELLEHER	NY	
Charles	King	NY	I have worked in health care for over 20 years, most of that with underserved patients, and EVERY DAY, both at work and with my extended family I see the pain that comes not only from those lacking health insurance, but also with those who have insufficient employer based coverage from insurance companies that make their bottom line the priority over peoples health.
Martha	Klein	NY	
Joe	Kohn	NY	Since we only need ONE PLAN that covers all treatment for everybody, let's get rid of our present insane delivery system of private for profit insurance that forces us to predict how sick we'll be in the future, in order to sell us limited coverage, since we can't afford full coverage!
eleanore Z	Korman	NY	Everyone needs good health care that includes prevention, including coverage for hearing and sight problems. We all need to have the kind of coverage that congress has.
JEANNE	KOTUBY	NY	
Andrew	Kurzweil	NY	
Sue	Ladwig	NY	Universal, publicly financed health care is crucial because it's the right thing to do, both economically and morally.

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Patricia	Leary	NY	Whenever you refer to the cost of health care, I become afraid. Afraid that in focusing on cost, you are missing the point about CARE. If a reordering of national priorities is necessary to deliver higher quality care, then maybe we need to spend more, net, on health care. The goal is not accessible health care coverage or even universal health care coverage, it's universal health CARE. That's what every other developed nation on earth has.
Elizabeth Wolder	Levin	NY	It is time for all Americans to have access to high quality health care!
Eli	Levy	NY	health care is a basic right and all citizens should have access to the best medical care that the USA has to offer.
Ronnie Beverly	Lichtman	NY	
	Livesay	NY	Healthcare is not a commodity. It has been painful to watch as unscrupulous manipulators have played the same games with our health that banks played with our housing and that Wall Street with the help of AIG played with our retirement. We are fed up. There is no rational reason why insurance companies should take a penny from our healthcare money. Medicare part D is a hoax. Please do the right thing and prevent the vultures from picking our bones.
Katherine	Lobach	NY	This is the simplest, most cost-efficient way to achieve universal coverage with fairness to all.
Yvette	Louis	NY	It is shameful that our government allows so many of its citizens to be without health insurance. It's about time that this inhumane situation was corrected.
John	Lowenthal	NY	The uninsured and under insured must be covered. The Taiwan plan seems to be working well
Daniel	Lutzker	NY	Every industrialized nation in the world, except for the U.S. and the Union of South Africa, has national health care. Humanity demands that people not be made to suffer or to die because medical care is denied for economic reasons.
Melissa	Martinson	NY	I am doctoral student currently writing my dissertation on health disparities in the U.S. versus U.K. Equal health care is very important to helping us reduce inequalities (and contain costs) in the U.S.
Susan	McCarthy	NY	
William	McCoy	NY	Single payer is the only way to save money
Maureen	McDermott	NY	I have many reasons to fight for a publicly financed health care system. I am an older American who has given much of my life to the children and families who attend public schools. Now, as a retired teacher, I expect I will rely more on good health care both for preventive care and critical care. In addition, I have two grandchildren whose health is most important to me. Their mother who has a serious condition that requires daily medication. Her pharmaceutical bills that are off the chart so any health care reform must include pharmaceutical coverage. America cannot afford not reform its health care system in a meaningful way. We must invest in the health of citizens of this country; ultimately we, the people, will make this country great. We can do nothing if we are sick, poor and dying figuratively and literally.
Paul	Meissner	NY	This is a unique opportunity to enact meaningful long term solutions to our health care system. We cannot afford to squander it.

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Eli	Messinger	NY	I have been a physician for forty years. Medicare-type insurance is the only equitable and feasible manner of financing universal health care coverage.
Laura	Miles	NY	
Gerry	Minerd	NY	
martin	morand	NY	
martin	morand	NY	
Jim	Morgan	NY	
Sherlina	Nageer	NY	
CARLA	NATALUCCI-HALL	NY	
Jaughna	Nielsen	NY	
Brendan	O'Connor	NY	We need a public plan to guarantee that the plight of our patients, uninsured and underinsured comes to an end. As a medical student I see patients, insured and uninsured both, who are skipping treatment due to cost. They get worse and ultimately cost more. I am sick of it.
Maxine	Okner	NY	
Lorri	Ovryn	NY	
Denice	Park, PsyD	NY	Mr. President, please do all you can to guarantee that my relatives, the under served, and I have access to quality health care. No one should have to choose between having food/shelter and obtaining health care, including preventive- and diagnostic/treatment-focused health care.
Arthur	Parris	NY	
Sandra	Patla	NY	
Karen	Pence	NY	
Phyllis	Phillips	NY	In a country such as ours, good health care should be available to all our people. I believe this is possible with intelligent planning and appropriate legislation. We should cover preventative care as well!
adrien	pierre	NY	
Carol	Pincus	NY	I am a retired doctor, unable to handle the paper work of our present system. "Medicare Advantage" plans are always changing (those that are privatized). My patients of all ages, hated changing doctors; please don't make it necessary for them to continue doing that. Please help us, doctors AND patients. Carol Smith Pincus, M.D.



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Naomi	Pless	NY	Single payer, government sponsored, universal health coverage would open up many jobs in the health care sector to meet the demand of citizens currently not receiving care due to lack of insurance. Further jobs would be created by removing from employers the financial burden of providing health care coverage for their employees, thus freeing companies to use these extra funds to hire more workers. Not having to provide health coverage would also help American companies become more competitive in the global marketplace by removing an expense that no employer in an industrialized nation outside of the US has to meet. All other industrialized nations on Earth have some form of universal health coverage for their citizens and thus realize enormous savings in health care bureaucracy and administration expenses. As a side benefit of such change we might even see indicators of US health status such as infant mortality rates come down to levels comparable with other countries of similar wealth.
marcia Jay	poston Price	NY	A health insurance policy for all much like that enjoyed by Federal employees would be most appropriate for all US citizens.
Sheila Andrea josh Melanie	Rabin Rankin rattner Richardson-Severo	NY NY NY NY	We want privately delivered and publicly financed health care for all.
			I am a nurse in the admissions department of a long term care facility for AIDS patients. This week, I have had multiple occasions where I had to track down information on patients' insurance to find out if they have coverage and if we can provide the care they need. On many of those same occasions, I discovered that those insurance policies would only cover the patient for "in-network" facilities or that the care is not covered because it is not considered medically necessary (this for a resident who can barely transfer from his wheelchair to the bed). The most tragic thing is when a patient does not get the care they need and deserve because of ridiculous requirements made by managed care. The next thing I find SO discouraging is the amount of time it takes to track down the correct information. Not only that, but actually collecting for the services we provide is tied up in massive amounts of paperwork that is held up by petty requirements for billing, adding to our administrative costs, and increasing the overall cost of providing care. It makes no sense, and we as a country can no longer sustain the insanity.
Barbara Barry Anja	Rinehart Rock Rudiger	NY NY NY	Health care is a human right, and reform measures must meet the core human rights principles of universality, equity and accountability. To do so, health care must be treated as a public good that is publicly financed and administered.
Barbara	Russo	NY	I am tired of paying an astronomical amount for my health insurance just because my employer does not have a health plan. I pay \$850.00 per month for my individual health care coverage.
karen	safford	NY	Although at present I have adequate health insurance, it grieves me to see so many others going without basic health care due to lack of coverage.

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Niels & Mary	Schulz	NY	We can provide good health care for all of us while reducing the total cost - single payer/Medicare for everyone - it works - let's make it available to everyone.
Joel	Schwartz	NY	Single payer is the only plan that reduces costs and improves the health of all Americans.
Briggs	Seekins	NY	QUIT LETTING CORPORATE SCUMBAGS PROFIT OFF FROM SICK AMERICANS. SHOW THE PEOPLE YOU ARE REALLY ON THEIR SIDE, OBAMA.
Jane	Seff	NY	As a health care provider, I'm acutely aware that patients cannot get the mental health treatment they need because of insurance restrictions.
Curtis	Seyfried	NY	ALL Americans deserve permanent, free paid for by taxes, comprehensive healthcare, without HMO's sucking up money by denying services to the people who need them. Doctors should freely, without pressure from the HMO they work for, be able to determine a patients needs. 1st, we need healthcare / psychiatric care payment parity! 2nd, we need to get rid of profit making HMO's who only save money by denying needed services to patients. Doctors should decide what services a person needs. HMO's cost money because they are profit making organizations. 3rd, we need Medicare to make FULL payment to service providers. Patients should NOT have to buy additional supplemental insurance. There should be no deductibles which deny people services because they can not afford the deductible. The healthcare system should pay from the 1st \$, \$ number 1. I am a disabled person with SSDI, I have to pay to obtain Medicaid to pay for the costs Medicare does not pay for. I use above average number of services because of my combination of psychiatric and medical disorders. I am Bipolar Type 2, w/ schizoaffective disorder, major depressive and anxiety disorder, with agoraphobia. I see my psychiatrist 1 X per month, which is necessary. I see a psychotherapist 2 - 3 times per WEEK, which is necessary to improve my condition and to provide my psychiatrist with needed information to determine my medication treatment. Because of the side effects of many of my psychiatric medications I must get blood work done every 3 months, to check my liver function, blood sugar, cholesterol, triglycerides, and other blood work. To do this I must see my medical doctor every three months, additionally for her to monitor my other physical illnesses adequately. Because of the obesity caused by my being homeless and side effects of my psych medications I have: High blood pressure, high cholesterol and triglycerides, Type 2 diabetes, restless leg syndrome / tartive dyskinesia in my legs, swollen feet as a side effect of one of 17 medications I must take 2x's per day every day. There is no cure for mental illness only treatment, I will be in treatment for the rest of my life. I am 57, my father just passed away at 87. The WASTE is in the ADMINISTRATION of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, NOT in patient usage. You need to investigate every level of administration and trim unneeded procedures, and unproductive people. An example of waste. I have orthotics due to heal spurs and fallen arches. Medicare pays for the DR.'s visit and prescription. Medicaid pays to have the orthotics made. When the rubber/vinyl covering wears out, neither Medicaid, nor Medicare will pay to repair the orthotic, and I can not afford the \$50 to repair them. So I go back to the doctor, get a new prescription for new orthotics and have an additional \$300 - \$00 spent to make a new pair of

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orthotics made. I no have 4 pair and need a 5th. Medicaid should pay to REPAIR my existing orthotics. The underlying plastic base will last for my lifetime. This alone would save millions to tens of millions of \$\$\$'s nationwide.

don	shaffer	NY	
Matt	Shotkin	NY	Because healthcare reform is important:
Jerry	Shroder	NY	The absence of care for millions of Americans is unsustainable and cries out for improvement.
Angelica	Smith	NY	This is important to me because the values upon which our country was founded, the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, are unattainable without health and adequate access to health care when needed. Our country was not founded on the right of health insurance companies to deny coverage and maximize profits.
Florence B.	Smith	NY	Health Care is a human right
Sidney	Socolar	NY	A momentous struggle is shaping up in Congress over whether all Americans should have the option of coverage by a public health plan, as you have proposed. Medicare, widely respected and treasured, is the best candidate for that public plan. I hope you will weigh in in support of that course.
Suzy	Stein	NY	
Irene	Stein	NY	Long run savings, simplicity of singly-payer system, coverage of basic needs of our citizens (social justice) all testify for the single-payer system. Please try to work for it or at least to put in place a structure that can take us closer to single=payer health care. Irene Stein
Sharon	Stevans	NY	Let's join the rest of the advanced world & have Medicare for all our citizens- a single payer plan. That would take all duplication, inherent waste of the multiple insurers, profit motive & extreme negative incentives out of the system. Just do it & let the "chips" fall where they may.
Hank	Stone	NY	Why give money to insurance companies in the name of health care? Let the paper pushers insulate houses or install solar collectors!
David	Stornelli	NY	A public alternative to employer sponsored private health insurance is essential to meeting our health care needs!
Indu	Taneja	NY	



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Judith	Van Allen	NY	We need universal health insurance both because it is humanly just to provide good health care for all Americans, but also because the costs of health insurance for businesses are hurting American business, for example, the auto industry, and creating more incentives for corporations to move production to Canada or other countries with universal health care. I have been on Medicare for three years and it works excellently--I want everyone in my country to have that kind of care provided for them.
Beth	Weitzman	NY	
sarah	welt	NY	
Kelly	Wessell	NY	
Kim	Williams	NY	
Jennifer	Wolf	NY	I lived for years in Europe and NEVER had any issues with socialized medicine. It is only in this country that I have had to wait for doctors or had treatment denied. ALL Americans deserve what all Europeans take for granted!!
Helmut	Wolf	NY	Look at other countries for examples. It works in Europe and many other places around the globe - no need to reinvent things. Thanks!
Gillian	Wood	NY	
June	Zaccone	NY	Medicare is a program with which most Americans are familiar, so is not subject to the same false attacks of the Clinton plan.
Enid	Zuckerman	NY	
Stanley	Blum	OH	The health and welfare of America is threatened when so many go without proper health care. When this happens so does the education and the economy stand in peril. The cost to a family would be less with such a program. This would also make null and void the influence that many lobbyists have in Washington and on state and local governments. This would also cut sown on many of our social problems for people would feel more secure.
Carol	Bockelman	OH	There is no other issue that is as important to me and my family as universal health care in this country. This is why I voted Democrat. Please don't let us down.
Michael	Carano	OH	No health care plan being presented solves the problems like a single-payer system would, a system with everyone in, nobody out, no co-pays, no deductibles, no being denied for pre-existing conditions. Besides saving upwards of 400 billion a year, this system would provide the kind of oversight that could minimize costs by promoting health. We need a system that puts the doctor/patient relationship back at the center of health care. We need a system where health and health outcomes are the impetus for its existence, not the profit motive. We need a system that will allow the US to join the other industrialized nations in the world by seeing that health care is a right,, not a privilege for only those able or fortunate to have access. In our current economic crisis, now is the time to take bold, sweeping action, action that will give the boot to those who act as middlemen in our present system and always have their eye on shareholder profit. Any plan, Massachusetts or like it, that includes the insurance industry is destined to fail. It may not fail the profit takers, but our economy, and more importantly, the very lives of people across our nation, will continue to suffer. The people want this national system. Now,

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who amongst the elected representatives who were sent to do the bidding of the people recognize that they are now the impediment to real, systemic change? We elected you to serve the people, your constituents, and now we expect you to quit serving the special interests that are blocking the end to 47 million uninsured, and a larger number than that of under-insured, blocking the ending of 22,000 annual deaths due to lack of medical care, blocking the end to bankruptcy due to medical costs, blocking our nation humanely taking care of its people because the moneyed interests hold sway over our doing what is right.

Hayward	Granier	OH	
james	lazar	OH	
Leonard	Orbovich	OH	
John	Ramey	OH	
John	Senich	OH	As I near retirement age I am Horrified that I will Not be covered until I am old enough for Medicare.
Rosemary	Snow	OH	
Mary	Stewart	OH	
Joan	Taslitz	OH	We need systemic change in our country, not just tinkering with how we pay for health care. Including "alternative" approaches in an integrated system would save millions of dollars.
Christine	Valadon	OH	Fairness requires that ALL Americans receive the health care they need, not only the wealthy. Insurance company should be made to reimburse care gotten through alternative medicine, which is often much cheaper. These alternative methods treat preventively and, when there is a health issue, they treat the whole person with natural medications, and they deal with the cause of the problem. Allopathic medicine, on the other hand, often focuses only on symptoms and treats them with drugs which too often have a variety of undesirable side effects. If a lot of extraordinary waste were cut down in hospitals, bills would not be so high.
Matthew	Weaver	OH	I've seen personally what lack of healthcare can do to a productive family!
Pamela	Ashby	OK	Healthcare reform is urgently needed. Please stay true to your commitment to provide all citizens the health care they need.
Larry L	Wright	OK	
Kat	Hanneck	OR	How is it that our health is considered a profitable business instead of a human right? That people can only get insurance if it will be profitable for the insurance company? How did money become more important then health????
Melissa	Lubofsky	OR	This is a human rights issue. Not having universal health care is one of the factors causing the U.S. to decline - becoming more like a third world country.
Steven	Pologe	OR	
Judith	Ros	OR	



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Carla	Saporta	OR	In these tough economic times many people are suffering because they have been laid off of work. Unfortunately, this means many people no longer have access to necessary healthcare. Studies have demonstrated a causal effect of unemployment on adverse health outcomes. We need to expand Medicare for all because by providing people access to a healthcare, focusing on prevention, and maintaining chronic care plans, ultimately we will save tax payers money while improving the health of our nation.
Michele	Stranger	OR	
consuelo	Hunter vazquez	OR	please do not leave our elders without the expanded care they have worked all their life for. Medicare eldercare please keep their benefits and expand them to truly care for all the needs of our elders they worked for us al these years.
Pat	Wiman	OR	All people in the United States have a right to universal quality health care that is equally affordable and accessible regardless of where they live or work. To achieve that goal the model must be changed to emphasize health and prevention of disease and accidents. The current system is primarily organized to treat sickness and maximize profits of the few to the detriment of our well-being and prosperity. Any new system cannot provide modern, effective health care for all at a reasonable cost unless we eliminate greed as a prime factor. Good health is a community and public good, so the delivery of health care must be transformed with community institutions that guarantee our rights and insure that public health is always the main priority and profit is incidental and controlled. MediCare has served Americans well since its beginning. Reform should build upon and improve this public health care system for the benefit of all citizens and residents who should be its main beneficiaries. Any programs of corporate welfare for the medical industry, such as aspects of the current MediCare Part D coverage that deny medicines to people and bloat the profits of pharmaceutical companies, must be changed. We expect prompt action from our government representatives to accomplish these goals now. We believe it is your responsibility to work together to pass legislation to make meaningful changes for our health care a reality without further procrastination or obstruction. Thank you for your efforts so far, and for your commitment to achieving results we can believe in.
Gene	Bishop	PA	As a primary care physician, I can no longer tolerate the immorality of the uninsured and the underinsured. I also cannot justify diverting health care dollars to insurance companies who provide no added value.
Joseph	Blanc	PA	
Lydia	Blank	PA	
Hilary	Chiz	PA	
A.	Chizeck	PA	
David	Choyce	PA	
Jed	Dodd	PA	single payer universal care is good for health care and patients but not so good for insurance companies and campaign donations. Do what is right for Americans and not insurance companies and campaign donations.



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Paul	dominic	PA	Our present system creates one to make a decision sometimes make the appointment or to take the medication or be able to stay in our home and put food on the table
Denys	Everingham	PA	Just So You Know ...: I am A Form-a-phobic Multi-Ethnic, American born human being from planet Earth; A Colon Cancer, Chemo Therapy Survivor; Afflicted with Fibromyalgia / Myofascial pain Syndrome, Accompanied by Chronic Fatigue & Chronic Sinusitis; who had a Sebaceous Cyst removed from my chest 27 December 2005; was physically, sexually (Sodomized) & mentally abused during my 14 ½ year marriage; endured the loss of 4 children, joined the USA Air Force Reserves at age 34 (by then single mother of 1 daughter and 2 sons) & completed Basic Training with women half my age. & I Cannot nor Will not Knowingly use: ANYTHING Genetically Engineered; Antibiotically Afflicted; Hormonally Challenged; Animal By-product Fed; preservative ridden, color laden Bad Packaged in unprotected metals or colored, non-dishwasher safe plastics, anything artificial; raw; under-cooked; raised or produced in areas that have rejected the laws of nature within the past 4 years I joined the Air Force Reserves at the age of 34 [June 1979] attended initial basic training [29 August 11 October 1979 (Orders were to cover travel days & the unit did not factor in the Columbus Day holiday, actually bringing my total days of initial active duty to the required 180)] with people half my age; then began a federal civil service career at the age of 35. [I suffered an injury in 1988 that ended my military and civil service career. Lost Wkrs Comp benefits effective November 1995 and continue eking by on SSD & SSI. Ever striving to Spotlight The Good Expose The Bad and Do Extreme Makeovers on the UGLY! And obtain REAL Help for REAL People.
Ms. Sally	Faucette Carter	PA	
Sandra	Fox	PA	Everyone deserves excellent healthcare, regardless of ability to pay, health and employment status, race/ethnicity, gender, age, geography. Discrimination is rampant in healthcare and should not be tolerated. Please enact Improved Medicare for All.
Laurie	Fox	PA	Because health care is skyrocketing and the economy sucks and everything goes up but your PAYCHECK
joseph	franks	PA	Single payer is better for consumers AND better for businesses who would stop having to cover an enormous cost that puts them at a competitive disadvantage.
Mariana	Garrettson	PA	
Sara	Gil-Ramos	PA	We need a health care system that provides coverage for everyone and does not exclude anyone.
Paul	Grubb	PA	
Tara	Hayden	PA	
rick	henry	PA	it will put us on an equal footing with overseas industry-lighten the load on American corporations make us more competitive
Naomi	Herman	PA	I work in the mental health field. When people are not able to get the help they need because of their financial issues, the general public is hurt in the long run. Reimbursements to physicians need to be adequate to encourage young people to enter the medical profession. I believe there is a shortage of radiologists.



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jim	hiltz	PA	
Elsen	Jacob	PA	Dear President Obama and Congress, As a pharmacy student passionate about public health, I have been shocked by the health disparities around the nation. I am a strong proponent of quality and affordable health care for all. This is why I am asking you to do all that you can to ensure that this happens soon.
gerald	katz	PA	
William	Lawrence	PA	
Walter J.	Lear	PA	
William	Luong	PA	It's not fair that only certain health care covers certain things. I prefer one unified health care that can cover anything. Some of us are poor and in need of health care. We all can't afford these things. I hear USA has one of the best health care programs but the citizens of the US don't even live longer than other countries out there. I know this new program you are doing will benefit everyone in the US.
CHARLES	MAGEE	PA	
sylvia	marchiafava	PA	Everyone in this country should have health care. it is right. It will cut cost if we can diagnose health problems at an early stage, this will prevent high dollar claims in the long run.
Jim	Moran	PA	
Harry	Mullen	PA	
Kate	Powers	PA	
James	Rauch	PA	Being a union worker a national health plan will benefit us at contract negotiations, one less item to talk over. Also a plan covering all Americans will lower the rates for everyone, making it more affordable.
Susan	Reardon	PA	
Abby	Resnick	PA	
ROBERT	RORICK	PA	WITH THE CONSTANT RISE OF HEALTH CARE IT IS INCREASINGLY HARD TO AFFORD MEDICAL COSTS FOR SENIORS AND RETIRED PEOPLE
David	Sachs	PA	The current recession demonstrates the need for a health care safety net. We need universal health care!
Mona	Sarfaty	PA	A more effective and less complex health system is vital to our economic future. It is time to reduce the confusing and unnecessary layers of bureaucracy. We need to expand Medicare to younger ages and put more doctors on salary to reduce the perverse incentives in the fee for service system and reduce the funding that goes to the wasteful insurance system that drains resources away from medical services in order to support the payment system itself.
Barry	Sexton	PA	
allen	smith	PA	
David	Smith	PA	
Jordan	Taylor	PA	Now is the time for single payer.
Walter	Tsou	PA	It is time for health care to be a public good, not a market commodity.
Francis	Welshonse	PA	
Joe	White	PA	Simply worthwhile!
Henry	Wise, Jr.	PA	

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Sarah	Huertas	PR	As a physician , I am painfully aware every day of the inequities in access to health care in our system and the tragic consequences for people. We need a universal, equitable and cost effective health system and the best bet to address all of these issues is single payer...
mike	dooriss	RI	
Michelle	Joy	RI	
Alexandra	Kaidan-Berry	RI	
Karen	McAninch	RI	I work with too many people who end up without insurance due to losing a job. Meanwhile, people with jobs have to fight to retain their benefits. 9 months of COBRA at 1/3 cost is helpful, but is not a permanent solution. We need a plan to ensure that everyone has coverage.
Thomas	Nall	RI	Because many railroaders like myself are retiring and working men and women need healthcare. We need the same as members of congress.
Patricia	Smith	RI	We will never get a truly good universal healthcare system in this country when it is run for profit. All the private insurance companies and pharmaceutical companies have profit as their bottom line. We pay more and get less in this country than in any of the other industrialized countries, which really is a disgrace. A look into which people in Congress get the most money from lobbyists representing insurance and drug companies has been very interesting and may reveal why some legislators are so opposed to any kind of government option. I think there is tremendous support for an extended Medicare system, and I hope you will consider truly delivering on what should be a basic right for all Americans.
ronald	winter	RI	
Rlck	Ballance	SC	
Juanita	Britton	SC	
Donna	Dewitt	SC	Publicly funded health care is a preventive measure to ensure the well being of all citizens, that will result in savings to the taxpayers. We can't be world leaders when we are the provide health care !
Patricia	Thrasher	SC	
David	White	SC	
Leon	Fenhaus	SD	
Christine	Rinki	SD	Americans want the security of health coverage for themselves and their families. The single-payer health plan is the way forward--it is more fair and more efficient than any other solution. Expand Medicare to support families, workers, business owners, and the future of this country.
Lynne	Baker	TN	I am afraid that should I be laid off I will not be able to get the health care I need. I cannot afford the COBRA health insurance payment for very long; it would deplete my savings in four months. My medicines alone cost me at least \$1,000 a month. Taking my medicine enables me to continue working. I would be more than happy to pay the increase in taxes necessary to fund Medicare for all. It would be cheaper than having to pay for premiums, deductibles and copays. Health care is a right and not a privilege.
Randall	Brassell	TN	The cost of health care is out of control, millions of Americans cannot afford coverage and are doing without much needed medical care.

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Reese Pam & Judy	Danley-Kilgo Duzak	TN TN	one out of every three dollars spent on health care is going to the insurance industry. that's like going into the grocery with \$60 and walking out with just \$40 worth of food. also, people who have - I repeat people who HAVE - health insurance go bankrupt with medical bills. three - our low rating on the WHO...just a notch above Cuba, I think. four - people are dying that should not die.
Wornie Alice	Reed Adams	TN TX	If we don't get single-payer health care for our country, we'll only be as strong as our sickest, uncared for citizen.
Mary Gary	Almendarez Ames	TX TX	It is crucial that all Americans can live with freedom and dignity. Universal health care is needed because Americans are the hardest working industrialized nation. We should not be denied this basic human need.
motolani Joseph	arogunjo Bak	TX TX	Expanded and Improved Medicare For All is the only fiscally responsible option available for truly universal, comprehensive healthcare reform. Health insurance companies are cost-prohibitive, unnecessary middlemen that add no value to health care service provision that could not be more cost-effectively provided by Medicare. Have the courage to do the right thing for all Americans, not the politically expedient thing that minimizes blowback from your corporate healthcare political contributors.
sharon	barbosa-crain	TX	Health care is simply the most critical issue we face, and its reform is an integral part of any economic recovery. But, we do not need piecemeal solutions that are a rehash of what we have that does not work. Nor do we need a system that is simply a health rationing system, again discriminating against older and less hale Americans. The human resources that are lost through a poor health care system are incalculable. Morality and humanity, as well as practicality, cry out for reform.
larry	bell	TX	I've a disabled veteran. everyone in this country should get the same GREAT, socialized medicine that I receive from the veterans healthcare system. thank you.
Greg	Bodovsky	TX	Please help us get coverage we can afford, and quit worrying about the insurance company profits. Haven't we had enough insurance company problems in this country?
Billye Blair Allissa Robert	Brown Carter Chambers Chavez	TX TX TX TX	Health Care and Education are a must for all Americans, and we must do something soon to make that a reality come true. May God Bless This Country !
Katheryn	Clark	TX	The US is one of only two industrialized nations without universal health care. That's disgraceful.



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Leslie	Cunningham	TX	Every day I see people losing their health insurance due to job loss or employers eliminating their plans. Every Texas legislative session my union (state employees) has to lobby to try to preserve our health care plan. We are the only affluent nation that does not have a universal health care plan. We can afford it. Single payer (Medicare for all), not-for-profit is the best plan in terms of universal coverage and cutting down costs.
Rose	Daughety	TX	As a National Representative to the OWL the voice for midlife and older women, it is my mission to help carry the voice for those older than me. Please know we are in desperate need to help these women. Rose Daughety
Kathryn	Ehlert	TX	As I am 62, unemployed and have no health insurance this coverage would bring considerable comfort to me.
Lynda	Ender	TX	People and businesses need health care now!! Expenses must come down and people must have health care coverage. Please, act on this now. Lynda Ender
carolyn	Fasel	TX	I'm 64, uninsured, I have worked since I began delivering newspapers at age 12. When my husband of 27 years divorced me because he realized he was gay, away went the insurance. I have worked almost exclusively for non-profits, hence no insurance or pension plans. Hospitalized in Oct. 2008 with "random virus" (not flu). Trying to pay \$4,000 physician bills, just got \$16,000 bill from hospital. Have about 20 more years of house payments so selling house in this market not a good plan. I work 40 hrs/week in hospice and eldercare--just took second job caring for an infant 12 hrs a week to help pay house taxes and medical bills. I feel I have worked for the good of society most of my life, and deserve better than this. Thanks. Carolyn Fasel
Janie	Flack	TX	Our health system is embarrassing. If we are such a great country why can't we give health care to all our people? Too many people lose everything trying to pay for health care for their families.
Deliana	G	TX	as a fully employed person with a 20 year old son who will age out of my policy while he is still trying to find his way in the world I am frantic to see that he will have access to health care when he needs it rather than defer care the way I see many doing
Judith	gedalia	TX	It is criminal that health care in American is only a privilege of the corporate employed. Health Care should not be a for profit business. It is a RIGHT. It is not socialized medicine as some would have us believe. Most of the developed world has some form of single payer health care. In this area we are a third world country. Shame on us.
Robert	Gibbons	TX	We are the only developed country in the world which does not have universal health care. Health care is a right, not a privilege. When profit is the sole motive for health care providers, our citizens who cannot afford health care are denied their full rights of citizenship.
Eva	Gonzales Brooks	TX	
Penny	Green	TX	I firmly believe that access to health care is a basic human right. It's time that America joined the rest of the civilized world in recognizing this right.



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Yvonne	Haghighatian	TX	Everybody needs access to good health care....not just those of us fortunate to be able to afford it.
Jim and Linda	Hargrove	TX	It's time to finally fix our health care system.
Kathleen Nancy	Hawkins Hoffman	TX TX	We must have single-payer health insurance coverage; you have the voice to inspire and convince the country. Please make it happen
Loretta	Hughes	TX	This is long overdue in the United States and we must correct this problem now.
Kathy Marci Gaye	Key King Kopas	TX TX TX	I have to delay or put off routine medical care because I can't afford it.
Douglas	Kupper	TX	Please use our tax money to expand Medicare to all. We do not want our tax money to pay for profits, marketing, and huge admin bills with insurance companies and pharmaceutical companies. These don't help us at all. When we add the one third of persons in the US who are uninsured and underinsured, we will add a lot of business for the new healthcare system and millions of new jobs. Please don't let the healthcare lobbying of over \$1 billion count more than the people in our country. It is not moral or ethical. Thanks.
Richard	Kurz	TX	The lack of health insurance is one of the major problems facing the citizens of the USA today. We can save billions in ER costs health insurance available for all.
philip	lawrence	TX	Your position is correct. It is absolutely essential that we reform the health care system so that every American has access to primary care and prevention services through health insurance and other means. It is also vital that the public health system at the federal, state, and local level be better funded if the overall health status of American is to be improved and the costs of our system reduced.
Vibeke	Lee	TX	A single payer health system is the ONLY way to have equal health care for all. The emphasis will shift to preventative care, and major illness will stop draining our health budget.
Martha	Lueg	TX	A national publicly funded, privately delivered healthcare system is the only way to cover all, at all times, while containing cost. I am the mother of an "uninsurable" adult child with MS- too well for disability, makes too much money for public assistance and not enough to pay for care. I know she in one of millions in the same situation - we need Congress to act now - not with another costly band-aid solution or a replay of the horrendous Medicare-D disaster, but with a single payer system - an expanded and improved Medicare for all. We need it now !!!
Ignacio	Madera	TX	Every person should have access to excellent medical care regardless of income. That ought to be a basic right! We Can make that happen in this country.
			Even those with private insurance are having to fight the insurance companies on denial of claims, lowering of benefits and unallowable costs. It's time we take care of the lesser of our children, in Jesus' name.



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Anne	McAfee	TX	Our son-in-law lost his job recently along with his private health insurance. He is now signed up for Cobra which takes a huge chunk out of his unemployment insurance. Meanwhile they have 2 kids in college and another one that they hope to be able to send to college. She is an honor student in her high school. The two older kids go to a public high school, but tuition has made a huge jump in cost.
Bill	McAfee	TX	My response to anyone saying that we can't afford single-payer is: We are already paying for it, sometimes with our lives. This will save money for all.
Joyce	McCart	TX	Simply stated -- We are dying out here with the wreckage left by the corporate grabs enacted via Reaganomics and de-regulation. Quick action is necessary for the struggling 98% of Americans. Please wake-up and see the smoke, as the fire is flaming. PLEASE MAKE MEDICARE AVAILABLE TO ALL AMERICANS immediately. De-Regulation was extraordinarily costly for Americans at multiple levels, affecting all our lives, our economy and our sustainability.
Myra	McIlvain	TX	My daughter, age 50, is on disability because of a degenerative condition of her spine. She gets Medicare, which is a blessing, but it only pays 80%. A hospital stay that runs in the thousands makes the 20% after Medicare prohibitive.
John	Meitzen	TX	This approach will get us far closer to the level of care available to citizens in Japan, Germany, and England, to name a few. We have a right to healthcare; it is a basic human right. Getting control of lobbying in DC (ethics reform) may need to be accomplished first though in order to get the right thing done on the healthcare front if our great nation is going to stay great.
deena	mersky	TX	We have always had to deal with the inequalities and in health services. Now, in our In the current employment and economic crisis health care availability is even more critical. Let us finally do what should have been done years ago--go for single payer, universal health care--its the right thing to do !!
Julia	Milazzo	TX	
Betsy	Moon	TX	I've been unemployed for 2 years. I still have a COBRA ins policy - but even though I'm a healthy 63 year old woman, I have to pay \$800 a month in premium. So, \$10,000 more a year out of my "nest egg". HELP!
Judi	Nudelman	TX	Access to quality health care is a United States basic right - not a privilege - just in the same way that access to quality education is a basic right. It takes a healthy and educated population for us to reestablish our leadership positions in the world.
Nadine	Pedusseau	TX	
John	Pettit	TX	
Burton	Pierson, Ph.D.	TX	There is absolutely no reason why we should not have universal health care AND universal national health insurance as good as the other western industrialized countries IMMEDIATELY!!!!
Naomi	Printz	TX	
Courtney	Queen	TX	
Oralia	Rodriguez	TX	I believe that everyone should be able to have healthcare. Healthcare should be affordable like Medicare.

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Nancy	Russell	TX	I agree with you that it will eventually be cheaper if we have universal health care. It is truly wrong for some Americans to have to go without needed care because they lack insurance.
ROGER	SANCHEZ	TX	
Patrick	Schmidt	TX	It is incumbent we provide an equitable, humane, and affordable healthcare to all Americans.
Mary	Schultz	TX	Mr. President, you know that inability to pay for healthcare is killing families and the economy of this nation. However, you plan falls short of the systemic change needed. ONLY a single payer plan can do what's needed. NOW IS THE TIME!
Barbara K.	Sell	TX	Expand Medicare to all Americans, it is time. Medicare D could be better, let us use the VA as a model.
Kirti	Sheth	TX	Even one American citizen uninsured is a disgrace for this nation. A 46 million uninsured and 22 million under insured is below American value. For the sake of Nation, Families, Businesses and individual a Single Payer Universal health care is at this moment in our history must be implemented. It saves money and lays solid foundation for future of this nation. Only your leadership will bring this change.
Sandra	Spicher	TX	This issue is so important to people across all walks of life. No one plans to be seriously ill or have accidents. The very first inalienable right mentioned in the Declaration of Independence is "life," and what is more important to life than health? If we aspire to be a compassionate nation, this issue must be foremost on the agenda.
Arthur	Valdez	TX	You need to be open to single payer. You even endorsed it. It is the overhaul America needs. As long as the health insurance companies continue to be in the mix for "reform", we all lose. Their motto is "profit over patient care".
Lyn	Wall	TX	
LaNette	Weaver	TX	
Johnny	Weaver	TX	
Thomas	Windberg	TX	
Palmer	Wright	TX	
Judith	Wright	TX	Health problems must be addressed without anxiety and with confidence in the physicians, pharmacists, and insurance coverage. Please HELP make this happen. Judith G. Wright
clark	newhall	UT	
Temitope	Awosogba	VA	
Johannes	Clouser	VA	The best Medical Breakthroughs in the World are useless if the average Person cannot get or afford access to that treatment. We need a plan we can afford and we need it now! By the way, it must include reasonable Prescription coverage. Thank You, Johannes Clouser



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Bob	Griss	VA	As Harry and Louise€ (the face of corporate interests that killed health care reform under President Clinton) quickly morphs into Thelma and Louise€ (the feminist cult movie ending in a dramatic drive over a cliff) threatening to undermine Medicare, Medicaid, and even private health insurance coverage, what is it going to take to create a social movement demanding that our government protect our health care as a right in the US? What does it say about our political democracy that our health care system is broke and needs to be restructured for a moral imperative, economic imperative, and fiscal imperative, but that the corporate influences from the insurance industry, pharmaceutical industry, and medical care industry are too great to legislate change even though public funding accounts for 60% of total health care expenditures in the US?
Lisa	Kaplowitz	VA	We must have a public insurance option - the private sector has failed to provide affordable reasonable insurance options for a large number of Americans. Medicare has a proven track record with low administrative costs.
Winston	Liaw	VA	
Robin	Matsuyama	VA	My career is about reducing health disparities. The system is broken and health care rapidly is becoming a luxury item. The costs of under-insured and uninsured affect everyone. It is critical that we have a system that is equitable for all. I would advocate a system like England's or Canada's. But at the very least, we must provide health care to those that can not easily afford it and do not have employers that cover it. Not a system that we hope will get private insurers to be more competitive but one that actually provides affordable or free coverage.
Richard	Procise	VA	
Wm.	Reid	VA	HR 676 is the only solution to our Health Care Problem
Ferguson			
John	Walsh	VA	I suffer a bankruptcy due to my father's health problem this despite the fact that he worked for 53 years. He had retirements from private industry as well as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as well as the U.S.Labor Department. But his health care coverage would not cover his required treatment. I lost everything---my house in Newton, Massachusetts, my retirement account, and friendship since I had no money to hang out. I have developed a severe case of diabetes because for 15 years 4 or 5 meals a month consisted of candy bars----so the health care system slighted my father but it's paying tens of thousands of dollars for my treatment, but my lifestyle has suffered immensely. I don't want to see any American endure what I did---nobody should be given the choice of leaving your father on a park bench without any identification or bankrupting yourself to try to care for him. Please adhere to the wishes of the American Public----63% of your constituents want Single Payer---- PASS IT TODAY!!!!
Richard	Davis	VT	
thomas	hackett	VT	
Larry	Karp	VT	Healthcare should not be a for profit business. It needs to be accessible to all and comprehensive. This strengthens our families and country by sending the message that we care. There is nothing more important than one's health!

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Gloria	Albeta	WA	
john	barson	WA	
cheryl	berenson	WA	
Paul	Bigman	WA	We need a system that ensures that everyone in this country, regardless of what happens to their job and regardless of income level, has quality health care. The only way to achieve that is through a unified national system; and Medicare provides a proven model. Without this, we will continue to have a health care system based on profit needs, rather than the public needs. We spend far too much on unnecessary overhead, paperwork and profit, leaving far too little to provide actual care.
Mack	Boelling	WA	There is no valid reason not to provide "Medicare for All", only the influence of special interests on our political leaders. I think you know this. Please, let's get on with it.
Mary	DeVany	WA	It is important to me that every American, whether they have a job that includes health insurance, are students, are self-employed, or dependent upon others is able to access health care when they need it. Please do your best to institute a system that is fair to all.
Steve	Greenfield	WA	My wife and I are caught in the middle- not enough money to pay for our own health insurance, not poor enough to qualify for public assistance. A good friend and fellow student just died, he may have been find if he'd been able to afford to see a doctor sooner. Please help!
Gail	Greenwood	WA	People in our country are suffering and dying unnecessarily. We've been the richest country in the world, spend the most money on health care, and yet we let our own people down. I'm lucky now because I have health care, but what might happen in the future? We can do this. Thank you for your attention.
Terry	Hinz	WA	
Sheila	Hoff	WA	The lack of a health system will continue to leave people in serious trouble threatening their health. there is no way the private insurance industry can be regulated. Either way they must make their profit and to do so they must cut back on care or raise their rates to selective populations. We need single payer to make it work and make it affordable. There is no other workable answer.
Ken	Kutner	WA	
Robyn	Meadows	WA	On a personal note: My husband and I are going through extremely tight times. We've had health insurance in the past, when one or both of us were employed, but right now my husband is going to school to acquire the certificates that will prove he knows what he does, while I am between jobs because of a car accident 7 months ago. I am now working part-time, but there isn't enough to pay the mortgage, bills, etc... and afford health insurance for either of us. We've worked and paid taxes all of our adult lives, but those who pay nothing into the system are covered for free. It's just not right. Please, help those of us who are between the 'have it alls' and the 'have nothings.'
Bud	Nicola	WA	This is the most equitable way to get savings to fund the health program. We need to take care of our people - and catch up with the rest of the world.
Joana	Ramos	WA	

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Kathleen	Reynolds	WA	The exorbitant cost of health care is a drain on our economy. The unemployed have trouble covering themselves and their families after losing their jobs. Other countries have much cheaper systems with better outcomes. We can do it too.
joan	Schrammeck	WA	Health care for ALL should focus on ALL and health. The only new plan I support is national, universal, applies to everyone regardless of where they work or don't work, and covers everything. In other words, we want a health system that makes health the centerpiece (unlike today's system which prioritizes denial of payment in a profit driven system). Spreading the risk via insurance does not work. Medicare is a proven program, but it needs to cover everyone for everything.
carole	schroeder	WA	We are bewildered by your refusal to hear popular sentiment on single payer system for the US. Please address this directly, our health is failing in the US while the medical industry is raking in enormous profits and bankrupting small businesses and families. Carole
Sandra E.	Strehlou	WA	
Karen	Valenzuela	WA	Though my employer (Thurston County) pays 100% of my health coverage, what it costs (about \$1500/month) simply isn't affordable to the average health care consumer. A public plan like Medicare available to all is what we must work toward. Paying for this kind of monthly health benefit for all our employees is bankrupting the County!
Donald	Vollmer	WA	It will get the job done efficiently and equitably
Lily	Walkover	WA	
Sarah	Weinberg	WA	Please, PLEASE, use this opportunity to enact single payer national health coverage, the only affordable way to cover all Americans for decent health benefits. Keeping the private insurance industry will simply mean pouring tax dollars into private profits and administrative waste inherent in having multiple plans in operation. This would be a VERY EXPENSIVE MISTAKE. If you want to "compromise" with a public alternative that any individual can choose, insist on the following restrictions: - The public plan is the default plan - any American who doesn't actively choose otherwise will be automatically enrolled in the public plan. - All federal elected officials must enroll in the public plan. (This will make our elected officials see to it that the plan is a good one.) - There will be no subsidies for any private plans. That means removing the employer's deduction for their contribution to their employees' health coverage. Private industry claims it is more efficient than the government. Let's make them prove it.
geraldine	Williams	WA	
Mary	Canales	WI	As a registered nurse for 25 years working in many communities throughout the US I know how important health coverage is for so many Americans. Please support expanded universal coverage that provides health for all in a equitable, quality and affordable manner. Our nation and the health of our nation depend on it.
Mary	Cutler	WI	I have been under insured for most of my life. I pay terribly high premiums and get absolutely nothing for it. This country needs a single payer system and you are our only chance at getting it. Let's go!

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Rea	Katz	WI	As a health care provider and consumer, I hope you will consider a national program that avoids piecemeal reforms and covers all residents from birth to death in a rational and cost effective manner.
Charleen	Moscinski	WI	We need something for those of us that are the "middle class" . The poor and the rich are always the ones that get taken care of. IT is time for us to be counted, too.
Joseph	Panosh	WI	
louis	pascek	WI	The USA families need help in accessing quality medical/health care, and our future is held in that balance.
Mark	Philipp	WI	A Medicare-like health care plan is a start, on many necessary reforms
Jason	Philipp	WI	The current healthcare system is too costly now, and is rising too fast. Drug companies and insurance providers are reaping the benefits while average Americans are feeling the pinch. The system needs to be revised to cover all Americans, but also must have private options as well with regulated pricing so there won't be waiting lists for medical procedures.
Susan	Philipp	WI	
corey	rohrbeck	WI	
Dustin	Underwood	WI	
Leif	Nelson	WV	
Jeffrey	Silverman	WV	I had my passport and citizenship revoked when I got behind on child support, and cannot afford Health Care. I have to live in a foreign country to have access to some quality medical care. The excuse for revoking my passport was that I was behind on child support because of kidney failure - and now cannot get social security since I am classified as a non-national of the US.