



American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION



July 30, 2009

Dear Senator:

Today 450,000 physicians and medical students stand together in strong support of health care reform.

We want you — Congress — and the Administration, and the American people to know that we believe, in the best interest of our patients and this nation, we must pass strong and effective health care reform in 2009. Americans need affordable choices, and stable coverage. Not passing health reform will result in continued rising costs, poorer quality of care, and more people uninsured.

Everyday, we are on the frontlines of health care, and know that we must ensure everyone in our communities, including working people, parents and children, all have a real choice of plans and doctors, affordable care, and access to necessary medical services. Health care reform will help physicians provide better care for their patients, throughout the nation.

Some people believe that patients are better off in today's disorganized insurance market. We believe that the health care our patients receive will be better within a reformed system. As physicians and future physicians, we stand in firm support of the patient-centered changes being outlined in Congress. We are confident that the reforms being proposed will allow us to provide better quality care to our patients, while preserving patient choice of plan and doctor.

Continuation of the status quo is a steep pathway to growing cost of and decreased access to quality health care for all Americans. Our patients cannot wait another year, another term, another day. We must take advantage of this historic opportunity for change and enact meaningful comprehensive health care reform.

Sincerely,
American Academy of Family Physicians
American College of Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Medical Student Association
American Osteopathic Association
Doctors for America
National Physicians Alliance