

PETITIONS TO CONGRESS from the people...

WE THE PEOPLE ARE DYING FOR HEALTH CARE!

The enclosed petitions from the people of the United States have come to Healthcare-NOW. We are bringing them to the attention of Congress with a great sense of urgency. WE require your immediate attention on behalf of your constituents. There are thousands of petitions here and thousands more on the way. CONGRESS HAS A DUTY to hear and respond to the cries of the people. The time has come for Congress to take action in support of a guaranteed national healthcare system for all.

**H.R. 676, single payer, enhanced and improved
Medicare for All.**

April 24th, 2007

A PETITION TO CONGRESS FOR HEALTH CARE NOW

Whereas: We spend over \$2 trillion (about \$5800 per capita) for healthcare in the US, yet millions are still not covered or receiving the care they need;

Whereas: We spend 40% more than any other industrialized nation per capita each year, but despite our gigantic health care budget, we rank behind thirty-seven other countries in health status, according to the World Health Organization. We already spend enough money to cover everybody with excellent comprehensive coverage;

Whereas: A bill has been proposed in Congress, H.R. 676, that outlines a national health care program that will provide guaranteed affordable quality health care and prescription drugs to everyone in the country;

Whereas: Over 12,000 thousand doctors have signed on in favor of this plan, including two former U.S. Surgeons General, thousands of nurses nationwide, and over 250 Labor Organizations support this plan;

Whereas: Under H.R. 676 we can pay for a comprehensive national health care program without spending additional money, cover every single person in the United States, and control deficit spending for healthcare;

And Whereas: The bill provides money for retraining those whose jobs as administrators in the insurance industry would be lost as a result of this shift;

Be it Resolved That: We call on our members of Congress to pass H.R. 676 so our people and our nation can have the excellent health care system we deserve. Health care is a human right, and we call on our members of Congress to recognize that right.

ALABAMA

- Bobby White** AL Hope it passes.
- Patricia Crowley** AL Create a universal health care system that is fair and equitable for all citizens.
- Cheryl Viering** AL Starting my own business is not an option for me. I have a manageable chronic condition which makes me uninsurable.
- Wm. Powell** AL We are the richest nation in the history of the world, and we can pay for ANYTHING if the will is there. There is absolutely no need for anyone in the United States to go without healthcare.
- Kate Wessling** AL As a practicing primary care physician I am certain the only solution to the lack of quality, the lack of coverage and the unconscionable waste of resources is a pure single payer health plan. Don't waste further time, money, lives on minor approximations in the name of palatability.
- Austin Alexander** AL It is time for this country to change its failed health policies.
- Kim Wilson Owen** AL Adequate health care for all will save money. It's a travesty that human beings in this country do not have access to basic decent health care, especially children. Let's start making it better right now!
- Jerry Semple** AL Where do you find a Dr. that will treat you without Insurance?
- FAITH SIMPSON** AL IT IS SO SAD YOUNG AND OLD WAIT UNTILL THE LAST SECOND BEFORE SEEKING MEDICAL ATTN. BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO HEALTH INSURANCE OR MONEY.
- Mona Lopatka** AL The time has come! There's no excuse for dragging this on any longer.
- Austin Alexander** AL It is time for this country to change its failed health policies.
- William Powell** AL **With all of the blessings we have in America, it is unconscionable for our society to sit back and allow millions of men and women, children and adults, elderly and young, to suffer because they can not afford adequate medical care. Wiith all the discussion about morals in our society, I would think that the time to act for universal healihcare would be now. Jesus Himself said that "what you do to the least of these, you do to me." We a're our brother's keepers and it is time to act like it.**
- Merton Bernstein** AL Rapidly rising cost of health care murders budg:ts - federal, state, local, business and personal. Single-payer savings provide the way out - plus coverage for all.
- Nora Johnson** AL I heartily endorse this petition in support of single-payer health care.
- Billie Young** AL Everybody needs health care. Even the most up w:rdly mobile see the need for health care for everybody. It just makes sense. We can do it. We had a (Sixties) revolution withou: computers. Of course, we can have one for health care with computers! Tell Everybody. Word of Mouth helps. Let's put those cell pl:ones to good use.
- Deana Clark** AL Finally
- Amelia Lewis** AL I am currently a student and have found it very difficult to find healthcare insurance that is affordable. I feel that a national health system would be very beneficial not to college students with low income households but also to newlyweds, elderly, and single parents all of who usually have fixed incomes. This would really help many people by providing them with the opportunity to enjoy healthier lives without worrying about affordable healthcare.
- CLAIRE BOWEN** AL YES, I AM ALL FOR A HEALTH PLAN FOR ALL AMERICANS, THIS SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR ALL BY THE COUNTY WHICH WE LIVE. I BELIEVE THIS IS THE ONLY COUNTRY THAT DOESN'T PROVIDE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL ITS CITIZENS.
- Miranda Diel** AL I love what the Canadians do, I think it would be right for us!
- Georgette Norman** AL We need HR676 NOW! RIGHT NOW!! Take a stand.

Beth Collier

AL Everyone needs healthcare!

Charles Andrews

Equal Care for All!

ALASKA

Christie Romano AK I am 32 yrs. old. I have always been very healthy. Then I was diagnosed with a condition, that my doctors think was a birth defect. It was life threatening if not treated. Thankfully, my husband is in the military which entitled me to health care coverage. I have received the statements from the hospital. It totalled over \$280,000.00 I know if we did not have health care coverage, it would have come down to losing everything we have and being in debt or leaving my children without a mother and my husband a widower. It breaks my heart to know that one of my kids could face this same situation one day without any coverage. I pray that politicians, who are responsible for making laws for health care coverage, will have compassion for their fellow citizens. Health care to all!!

Martha Osborn

AK Single payer health care is the only just way to a healthier USA. Do it now!

Philip Osborn

AK Our son died last June because we could not afford the proper care and the HMO dragged its feet until it was too late. This won't bring him back but will stop the madness for everyone else. Hurry!

Carrie Thompson

AK I truly believe this country needs to provide their citizens with free health care!! Many other "poorer" countries have it for their people. Health care in this country has become impossible to get unless you're on a group plan, take me for example. I quit my job to stay home with my two babies. I wanted to create memories with my kids and be the ONE to raise them. Well I am a very healthy person, never been hospitalized for anything, other than giving birth which mind you were both very easy & no complication births. I was denied health care through two providers. Both gave me two different reasons. The coverage I was trying to get with both of them was \$5000 deductibles plans with a: least \$300 premium cost per month. I've never racked up \$5000 a year in coverage & that's including giving birth. I ended up trying a 3rd provider and they said if I've been denied twice I might as well not even waste my time trying again. You see each time you apply they ask you if you've ever been denied coverage in the past. So I've returned to a full time job that provides health care for me and the kids. Luckily I am able to work from home at my own hours, but not all working mom's can do this, and I don't know how long this job will let me. Not only is our health care expensive it's impossible to get if you're in the working class unless you work for a good company, and even the companies are having to compensate for the high costs... what is wrong with this country?? Thanks for letting me blow some steam. Carrie

Thomas Higgins

AK Stop the war and start the healing.

Sol Neely

AK Health care is just one front of the class war: contrary to the claims of the so-called American dream, freedom does not begin UNTIL the conditions of toil and misery are alleviated. One bill for Health—then one for education. No war but the class war!

Kristin Summerlin

AK We can't afford NOT to do this.

Dave Lacey

AK Healthcare for all now.

Raymund Hawley
vote for HR 676.

AK We spend more than other nations and have a less efficient system. We can expect more! Please

ARKANSAS

M. MacLoch
problem now!

AR I tired of constantly having to choose between food, utilities and health care. We need to fix this

Issa Abboud

AR We got to do something about the growing health care costs. Every year things get more expensive and insurance companies cover less and less yet they charge more and more.

ARKANSAS continued

Bradley Wright

AR Let's put the pressure on to finally catch up with other developed nations on this matter

Brenda Mallard

AR My husband and I have worked hard all of our lives and now that we're of an age that health insurance will possibly be needed the most, we have none due to the high costs and the fact that I have been declined for coverage over and over because I've had health problems in the past. I don't know what we'll do.

Ann Taylor

AR I am sitting here at 2:26 am and cannot sleep because my teeth hurt and there is nothing I can do about it. I tried to get help and get these teeth pulled, but oral surgery is so expensive and I don't have the money so I am left with no choice but to suffer, cause if you don't have insurance or money no one will help you, everyone is too greedy. I use to be proud that I was an American but not anymore. :*(

L T Taylor

AR Please help us!! Many are suffering in the USA. : o(You are spending all the billions on the war and your own people are suffering here, not being taken care of. I used to think that I was so lucky to be born in the best country in the whole world...I don't think so anymore, what a joke!!! We are the only industrialized country that does not have a nationalized health care for all, what a shame this is!!!! I cannot believe that this has gone on as long as it has...almost 50 million with no health insurance which means no healthcare or crappy care if any for them at all, me, my husband and 3 children had health coverage through his job until my hubby had an injury and had to have surgery, unfortunately for us the surgery did not work and he could not return to his job, and had to have a second surgery...but guess what, by this time he no longer had any insurance...oh we had the option to keep the insurance we had if we could pay \$900.00 a month for the cobra insurance, and that is \$500.00 more than what we were paying a month for family insurance through his employer. We couldn't afford it and the insurance companies raise the premiums this high because they know most cannot pay this!!!!!! We had to pay a whole bunch of money down so my hubby could get a second surgery and if it were not for the church we attend helping us, he wouldn't have even got the second surgery. AFTER THAT IT TOOK OVER A YEAR and lots of physical therapy FOR HIM TO FINALLY FEEL BETTER, not a 100% though, and HE HAD LOST A JOB HE HAD FOR 17 YEARS MAKING \$19.00 AN HOUR, that may not seem like a lot to some, but it was a lot to us, now he has a new job, does not earn what he did before (we are barely making it) and they do not offer health insurance...the kids are covered through state health insurance, but me and my husband are not. We both have previous conditions that keep us from buying an individual health insurance plan; they turn you down if you have any previous health conditions!!!!(They will not cover me cause I had breast cancer at age 35 and that was before my husband had to have his surgeries!!!! We have had to file bankruptcy and our credit is ruined because of medical debt that we could not pay. (Even with the insurance we had in the beginning we owed so much we couldn't pay it all) Our dream of ever getting a home that was big enough for 5 of us is ruined!! We live in a very small cramped place. While my hubby could not work due to his injuries, we had to live on the \$8,000.00 we had saved for a down payment on a new home to live on. This should not happen to families! It is not right! The retired folks who save any money for retirement are wasting their time the way things are right now cause just one medical emergency will wipe out the whole savings they had for retirement...how sad and sick is this!!! STOP THE GREED NOW AND FIX THIS PLEASE!!!!!! I want my children to live in a better USA!!!!!!

PAMELA FULGHAM

AR IT IS DEPLORABLE THAT THE WORKING POOR, AS WELL AS THE MIDDLE CLASS AMERICANS DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE. IT IS IMMORAL THAT CONGRESS HAS FURTHER HINDERED FAMILIES WITH HEALTHCARE BILLS THAT THEY CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY IN BANKRUPTCY LAWS THAT FURTHER ATTACK OUR AMERICAN FAMILIES.

S. Edwards

AR Shame on you for helping others countries and turning your back on your own!!!!

Esperita Robbins

AR I paid for health insurance for years. When I developed back problems they attached so many "riders" to the policy plus increased it. This should not happen in a great country like America. I vote for National Health care. I think being sick is stressful enough without being faced with inflated insurance premiums that you can not afford.

ARKANSAS continued

Lisa Taylor AR My husband had to have 2 surgeries due to rotator cuff tear and we lost our insurance that he had with his job and now we had to file bankruptcy because of medical bills we don't have the money pay. We now have no insurance and both need to see a doctor but can't afford it, also since I lost my dental insurance (I have really bad teeth) and I was referred to an oral surgeon to have all the upper teeth pulled and the cost is \$2500.00 so I couldn't have the procedure done because I can't afford it and am stuck with these painful teeth in my mouth! My Mother in the same position because there is no dental coverage for senior citizens who can't afford it!!!! Please, something has got to be done; we need Health care for all like yesterday!!!! This is unacceptable! Thanks, Lisa

Anna AR can you please fix the link to the article: HEALTHCARE COSTS WORRY THE RICH... thanks! HR676 now!!!!

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Ray Wilbourn AR I have a wife that is terminally Ill with liver cancer, Cancer Treatment Centers of America Wants \$50.000 up front to treat my wife. Money has become more important than saving ones life..... yes we do need this....

Odis Jr. Robertson AR In 1998, I experienced a local hospital (St. Mary's) that would not show my daughter service asap because I only had AR kids (child insurance for low income family). They told us to wait to be seen. She had a fever of 105. We waited 4 hours and I seen grown men with sprained ankles and minor scrapes get seen right away. I left and drove to Morrilton (45 minutes). At this hospital we waited only minutes, not hours. This was a community hospital a county away. St. Mary's, in Russellville, is not a county hospital but the only one in Pope County Arkansas. The price for work done at hospitals like this, St. Mary's, is what is called price gouging. The service that they provide is mainly for the people with money and real good insurance. I have good insurance now but there are many people that do not. Especially in low income states which most of them are in the South.

ARIZONA

Paula Olch AZ It cannot be any worse than the broken system we have now -- and it just might be better!

Susan Willis RN AZ Our current health-care system is a disaster. It is actually health care for the healthy and the rich. Everyone else can just rot!

Susan Willis RN AZ Our current health-care system is a disaster. It is actually health care for the healthy and the rich-- everyone else can just rot!

Tiffany Groenhof AZ Thank you for organizing this! It is well past due!!

Will Troy AZ its about time.

Mauricio Espinosa AZ We pay the taxes; we should decide how to spend them. Healthcare, not war!

Janet Selby AZ Basic healthcare should be a right, not an option for the rich and privileged. Why should an individual risk losing everything they own and incur huge credit card debt simply because they became ill? The current system seems to put money into the pockets of insurance companies while making the actual system of caring for people inefficient and sometimes dangerous. Isn't it time for America to take care of its citizens?

Harry Young AZ We owe it to ourselves to take care of the senior citizens who has paved the way for where we are today and we owe it to ourselves to take care of each other.

Sena Kassim AZ We can spend trillions on war, but 0 on national health care? Something has to give.

Marcia Lincoln AZ This is long overdue. Get the insurance company business out of America's health care.

- K. Milner** **AZ** Taking care of our health should be a human right. If we are the richest nation, why can't we offer health care to our people. It is so vital and so unattainable for so many Americans, right here in our country. We know how to treat and prevent so many of the illnesses that have rendered many people unable to function. I want to make a difference.
- Teri McGovern** **AZ** It's the humane thing to do!
- Evaline Auerbach** **AZ** Let's turn the tables on the neo-cons: Spend so much money on what the people need that there won't be enough for wars!
- Victor Ong** **AZ** A universal, single payer health system is an idea whose time has come. We must provide the will power to implement it now.
- Jodi Guyot** **AZ** I cannot think of any other single measure that would have such a positive impact on the welfare of our country. Imagine, for once we will get more for less! What relief this will bring, especially for the elderly, the working poor and struggling middle class!
- Howard Israel** **AZ** It's about time every American gets the same Health Care which our legislators have made sure themselves get. ~ Ralph Anderson
- Victor Ong** **AZ** **The current system of health "insurance" makes us all just cash cows for the insurance companies. We need a single payer system that covers everyone equally and that eliminates the profit incentive.**
- V S Peterson** **AZ** It is past time that we must do something to truly address our national medical care crisis. Here is an opportunity to take a stand.
- Victor Ong** **AZ** The insurance based model for financing health care in this country may have worked well in the past, but at present it is a wasteful and inefficient system. The cost of obtaining health care has become such a burden that millions of people are without health insurance. Our country needs a single payer, Medicare for all program such as that contained in HR-676. Please support this bill and make this Congress known as the one that did the most to improve the lot of its citizens in the past 50 years.
- Sterling Vinson, Ph.D.** **AZ** Vote for Congressman Conyers health plan.
- Susan Thorpe** **AZ** It's about time!!! This would be wonderful for all of us out here at risk because we have no health insurance.
- Thomas Lewis** **AZ** It's time to cover everyone.
- Patricia Hale** **AZ** How is it that the wealthiest country in the world, cannot afford healthcare for its people?
- Michael Bryan** **AZ** We must do this for our kids and theirs. If we don't have the political will, it may never be done.
- Marlene Miller** **AZ** Our healthcare system in a disgrace. This is long LONG overdue.
- Lianda Ludwig** **AZ** We're paying for a Ferrari and getting a Hyundai with our health care. Properly prescribed, properly taken prescription medication is the 4th largest killer in this country! Alternative/complimentary care must also be covered. We're the only non-third world country without universal health care!
- Arlene Lehto** **AZ** Without adequate healthcare for all our people, our nation is as vulnerable to pestilence as any third world country!
- Lianda Ludwig** **AZ** We're paying for a Ferrari and getting a Hyundai with our health care. Properly prescribed, properly taken prescription medication is the 4th largest killer in this country! Alternative/complimentary care must also be covered. We're the only non-third world country without universal health care!
- Lauren McElroy** **AZ** Please don't put my name on your online site, although I do want my name to go on whatever you give to lawmakers. Thank you.
- Gerry Straatemeier** **AZ** Let's pay for health care not overhead - way to go!

ARIZONA continued

- Andrew March** AZ 20 - 30% of healthcare expenditures go to administrative costs. That's mostly paying unqualified people to second guess your doctor, set up roadblocks to patient care and the efforts to counteract these tactics. Single payer will be cheaper, easier and money will be directed to providing healthcare not denying healthcare. Andrew March M.D.
- Patricia Rowold** AZ The United States devoted billions of dollars to help people in other countries but we cannot or will not take care of our own. Anything we can do to help our own citizens should be mandatory. This is a critical issue and needs to be addressed immediately.
- Linda Stenholm** AZ It's about time!
- Mary Gilbert** AZ The shameful lack of a comprehensive health system hurts our children and their mothers so badly that we cannot afford to keep denying health care to those who need it.
- Judy Witt** AZ It's past time to handle medical care!
- Stephanie Knol** AZ **Let's get on board with the rest of the developed world! Healthcare for all!**
- Kalama Hochreiter** AZ Under the guise of cost-containment, health care became the hidden darling of business, and the profession ceased to care for the sick, restricting care for the patients, eliminating benefits or raises for employees, shifting the focus from the MD and making the CEO king. Not much difference in our current system than in feudal times. Except we DO have a voice and when we do JOIN together, we can make that voice heard. Millions die needlessly in today's system, millions more go without care or medicine for lack of funds to pay. When we have enough money to kill for oil and a false democracy and not enough to heal and cure... we are clearly destined for decline as a nation.

CALIFORNIA

- Anthony Apton** CA crazy system= you work, you get pay, get medical insurance but no work , no pay, no medical insurance- that' crazy.
- CARLOS CANEDO** CA How can we be "one nation under God" if we don't provide this basic human right to all of us?
- Nancy Williams** CA The pain and suffering this lack of health care has and continues to cause for most of our citizens is a national disgrace! My husband and I fully support this movement and our votes will be cast according to the support given by congress. Sincerely, Nancy Williams
- Sandra Macneill** CA All the other developed countries have health care for their people. We need single payer now.
- Lynn Huidekoper** CA There are 16 States working on Single Payer. California's bill, SB921, is well written and includes a quality of care component. We want to not only address the financing of health care but also improve the delivery system so that all Californians can expect superb health care by their providers. Our web sites: www.healthcareforall.org and www.sb921campaign.org
- Cheryl Betz** CA I believe that if Congress had to pay for their health care that we'd quickly see a solid health care plan in this country. We are long past due for better health care in a country this wealthy.
- Tulin Boston** CA For a country that is supposed to be the most privileged in the world, its health system, or lack of it, is a universal disgrace.
- Bruce Halen** CA I know the money is there. The only thing missing is the collective will to make it happen. Here's part of my contribution to the collective will.
- Lucian Neely** CA It's about time!
- RaeLene Brown** CA The retired American's worked hard to build this Country's businesses, they should have the right to medical care! Everyone should have the right!
- Brett Aronowitz** CA Is it okay to spend billions killing while our own citizens are dying from lack of health care?
- Parees Salinas** CA Let's start spending money on saving lives instead of teaching how to take them.

CALIFORNIA continued

- Robin Rae Swanson** CA Just imagine if our health care system were as strong as our military!! We NEED a universal 'single-payer' health care system NOW!! This should also include alternative health care and chiropractic.
- David Katz** CA Our health care system leaves too many outside of health care services. Let's cover everyone, get rid of Workman's Comp insurance and Medicaid.
- Denise Nizza** CA I find it sad that in a country as blessed financially as ours that so many people are without medical insurance. This is an important and urgent issue especially since most companies don't want to give their employees many benefits anymore.
- Rachel Riskind** CA Thank you!
- Richey Grude** CA My husband, age 77 has been diagnosed with Lewy Body dementia. Those of us who are primary caregivers need help, without the ultimate losing of all our lifetime of working and saving assets in the process. HELP us, please!
- Peg Bartkiewicz, NP** CA When Life/Death Insurance Organizations got involved subsidizing health care costs, the true cost of health care escalated to cover the exorbitant costs of chronic/end of life care. Healthy young people are financially punished to help pay for the care of the permanently disabled and declining elderly. They are subsidizing chronic long term maladies, while foregoing the necessary care required for preventive and short-term care. "The best health care is Self Care!" Take responsibility (when possible) for your physical and mental well-being.
- Jean Pauline** CA Although we happen to be the richest country in the world and our health care is the most expensive in the world, it is also a system that causes almost 50 million people to be without any health care at all. Such a situation should not be allowed to continue in the richest country in the world. That is the reason I am signing this petition and hope to bring health care to everyone living in the United States.
- Jeanne Ertle** CA We in California are working with Senator Sheila Kuehl to pass SB840 which would establish a single payer health care system in our state. But everyone in the US deserves to be included in a comprehensive, affordable and accountable health care system NOW!!
- David Townley** CA the time is NOW
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- Deni Mosser** CA SAVE AMERICA'S ECONOMY AND SAVE LIVES. HEALTHCARE SHOULD BE A RIGHT AND NOT A PRIVILEGE FOR THE WEALTHY. PLEASE PASS HR676 FOR THE HEALTH AND FUTURE OF AMERICA. SEE WWW.AMERICANHEALTHCAREREFORM.ORG THANK YOU.
- Matthew Tsou** CA Do we have to wait until our current health care system collapses before we implement single payer?
- Salvador & Gloria Sandoval** CA A grassroots, independent movement is needed now more than ever. Everybody in, Nobody Out!
- Lauren Coleman** CA As someone who lives in France part of the year, I see what a difference good and inexpensive health care means to the people of a nation. Let's please move into the 21st century, finally, on this issue once and for all in the U.S;
- Michael Eisenscher** CA We must force this issue into the center of the presidential and congressional elections.
- Eric Fanning** CA For the betterment of our society, we need to show the ruling class that we are united as citizens not consumers. Healthcare for all
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- Dave Adalian** CA How about a United States National Universal College Education Act?
- Charles Homyak** CA For the betterment of our society, we need to show the ruling class that we are united as citizens not consumers.
- Buff Whitman-Bradley** CA Health care is a human right and we cannot deny that right to anyone.

CALIFORNIA continued

- Tara Hui** CA This is the only sensible approach to health care.
- Roselva Ungar** CA It's about time to support this!
- Marsha Steinberg** CA As I long time health care provider and a current union rep for the public healthcare system, I can tell you that the system is on the verge of collapse. One third of the healthcare dollars go to CEO salaries and profit for insurers. Americans pay the most and get the least. We need a change immediately!
- Lynn Camhi** CA I volunteer in a health clinic and see desperate sick people all the time with no insurance. It is an outrage that we have so little regard for the well being of our countrymen.
- George Bair** CA It's time our elected representatives started representing the people rather than special interests and pass a national health insurance bill like the rest of the industrial world.
- Paul Evans** CA This is long past due.
- M.M. Halowell** CA Robert Byrd was born 10 months after my 87 year old father, in 1917. My father served in the Navy during WWII, and worked for 60 years including over 25 years for San Diego Gas and Electric. I would ask no less in the way of health coverage for my father than the health care Senator Byrd receives for his years of service in the Senate. We are Americans who deserve more in the way of health care than what is normally associated with poor third world countries. Healthcare-Now!
- Linda Bauer** CA It's imperative that all should have affordable health care beginning now. There are far too many that do not, and they need it badly. Everyone can benefit from this, everyone; not just certain people.
- Bob & Melinda Winet** CA The savings to businesses would be enormous making USA much more competitive in a Global market.
- Juan Dominion** CA Medicare with Medicaid (or some sort of low income subsidy) should be provided for all U.S. Citizens. If we take all the money that the insurance companies make and redirect it, we CAN do it, for EVERYONE!
- Sy Solomon** CA It's about Time!
- Lynn Camhi** CA Along with climate change considerations universal quality, affordable health care should be our top domestic priority.
- Sylvia Hampton** CA We only need to ask two questions. Which country has the healthiest population? What kind of health system do they have? The answers are France and single payer.
- Debra Daly** CA This may be the most vital action we can take for our national economic and security interests. Our broken health insurance system hurts all of us -- from individuals to health care providers to businesses and labor unions. It's time for change now!
- Gregory Markowski** CA Franklin D. Roosevelt in his January 11, 1944 State of the Union message to Congress stated: "We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. Necessitous men are NOT FREE men.' In our day these economic truths have become accepted as SELF-EVIDENT. We have accepted, so to speak, a second Bill of Rights under which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all. Among these [rights] are: ... THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE AND ENJOY GOOD HEALTH; ... America's own rightful place in the world depends in large part upon how fully these and similar rights have been carried into practice for our citizens. ..." [Capitalized words my emphasis] Our freedom has been slowly STOLEN from us-- as our representatives, it is your responsibility to restore it. Thank you.
- Pamela Hall** CA This is a good incentive for our government to safeguard its citizens' health.
- Janet Hand** CA Health care is a right, not a privilege

Todd Whitesel CA We really do have the best government that money can buy. Big Food sells us carb candy with too little protein and almost no fiber. Big Pharma sells us drugs at sucker prices that help our symptoms but don't cure us so we need to keep taking them for life. And inflation has driven the cost of medical care so high that insurance companies are shafting their least healthy patients so they can stay profitable. An ounce of prevention truly is worth a pound of cure!

Nicole Henri CA Since there are unlimited funds available to the military industrial complex, no-bid private contractors (i.e. Halliburton) with offshore tax havens, and the war profiteering machine---the single payer healthcare system is a no brainer and the true sign of civilization. Let's spend those dollars on HEALTH/life, not WAR/death! Let's STOP THE TERROR we all feel each time some illness knocks on our door and drives us into personal bankruptcy. Let's stop the anxiety we feel when we have to decide between putting food on the table or seeing a much-needed doctor.

Don McCanne CA Private insurers waste our resources through their administrative efforts to avoid paying for 80 percent of the health care delivered in this nation. We need to replace them with our own efficient national health insurance program.

Carol Norberg CA Sounds like a viable strategy. Shouldn't be too hard to get millions of signatures, but no progress until this administration is history.

Merrily Davies CA Instead of making senseless war and killing innocent people, let's use our tax money to make our own people healthier.

George Loeb CA Whys should the insurance and pharmaceutical industries determine healthcare policy for the people of this country? Healthcare for all citizens is a necessity, that will make our country along with it's people stronger.

Michael Lyon CA My friend wrote me: As our country plunges us into endless war (see "Special report: America's Long War, The Guardian 2-15-06), soldiers are not the only ones in harm's way. While billions are spent on the war in Iraq, the Medicare Modernization Act was forced down our throats by arm-twisting, threats and crooked deals in Congress. The result is a cut to benefits for many low income families and the disabled. All of this was made very real to my family and me as my son, who has chronic kidney disease, tried to leap the hurdles presented to him under Medicare Drug Part D through his HMO. He became alarmed when a coordinator from his Medicare HMO called, tearfully informing him that his insurance would only cover six of his thirteen medications. First they disapproved two of his four high blood pressure medications. To compensate his doctor had to double up on the amount of medication, which caused his blood pressure to become unstable until they got the dosage right. MediCal funding is no longer available to him to cover Semsipar, a drug that controls the amount of calcium in his system at the cost of \$1,800 a month. The co-pay under his insurance plan is 50%, an amount neither he nor anyone in our family can afford. Presently he is getting samples from his dialysis center and a sympathetic pharmacist. His doctor says that if he is not able to get a stable supply source his only alternative is to have surgery to remove his parathyroid to stop production of calcium. Because he cannot excrete calcium due to his illness, it becomes life threatening if he does not take Semsipar. However this scenario plays out, he and his wife are now forced to find cheaper housing in order to pay for the other drugs. For those with fragile lives, these cuts are truly life threatening. The SF Gray Panthers are right on the mark demanding the Medicare Drug Benefit be scrapped and replaced by universal, single payer health care with low-cost drugs.

Amber L. Vera CA It is so shameful for this country to leave their people out in the cold without any safety. Universal Health Care should not a personal right but a human right!! It is long overdue!!

Maria Garcia CA A healthy nation is a productive nation. We are all connected.

Michelle Hauser CA as a future doctor of public health without health insurance myself, I am painfully aware of the desperate need for universal healthcare in the US.

Margaret Cunningham CA Congress must not wait any longer to bring relief to the millions of families who, because of lack of health insurance, lack access to health care.

Larry Doherty CA What good is a country that doesn't take care of its citizens??? What does it matter that the top 10 HMO's made 10.8 billion in profits for 2005 yet 40% of US citizens are either underinsured or have no insurance at all? Get real! I fully support HR-676."

Carol-ann Koch-weser CA As my children become adults I worry that they will not be able to afford health coverage and since one of them has a chronic condition (asthma), this is of great concern. Providing health coverage for all is one of the equity issues our nation should definitely be addressing.

Tom Condit CA It is time for the U.S. to join the civilized world in providing socially-necessary health care to every resident as a simple right.

Bob Woolery CA Single Payer is long overdue; it was a central part of the New Deal, but Sen. Wagner dropped the ball. Let's pick it up and run with it.

Linda Sullivan CA We need to get the insurance companies out of health care.

Joseph Hancock CA I'll help any way I can. My Congressional representative is Diane Watson, CA District 33.

Juan & Ulla Sarmiento CA We need universal single payer health care for all citizens, as in all other industrialized nations of the world. Make healthcare, not wars.

Judy Prejean CA As a self employed individual, I am also self insured. I'm one of the under insured in this country. I do my best to stay healthy and strong and pray that nothing happens to me. I want to be able to have the peace of mind knowing that I wouldn't loose everything if something catastrophic were to happen. I don't mind paying my fair share but let it be that - fair.

Sandra Macneill CA Our country should be on a par with other developed countries in giving health care to all its people. We are terribly backward about this. If our Congress is intimidated or held hostage by the insurance or pharmaceutical companies, then perhaps we will need to vote in different Congress people. Please show your backbone and vote for HR 676. Thank you.

Sandra Macneill CA We need universal, single-payer health care for all so that we can be equal to other industrialized countries and so that we can take decent care of our people. If the problem holding this up is that our representatives in Congress are beholden and therefore being held hostage by the drug and insurance companies, we will need to vote in other congress people with more backbone. Please be brave and support HR676. Thank you.

Marion Schulman CA The insurance industry has been profiting at our expense. It raises rates, excludes people who need health services the most and denies benefits, especially to the mentally ill. Now it's time to eliminate the insurance industry and use the cost-effective single payer system that is used by other modern, industrialized countries. We need HR 676.

Rebecca Wolford CA I support this cause most emphatically, because I'm one of those millions of people who can't afford health insurance and I just turn 50 years of age. Dental and major health issues will be the most important ballot measures as the baby boom industry moves into their 50's and Especially for women who don't have support and are trying to make it on their own.

John G. Miller CA You have to decide which is more important: the private health insurance industry or the 18,000 people in the U.S. who the Institute of Medicine estimates die every year due to the lack of health insurance.

Antionette Broadnax CA I would like to see all americans get good affordable health care. Many countries provide medical care for their citizens. We are supposed to be one of the greatest nations in the world, yet we will spend money helping out everyone else and neglect those in need at home.

Mitchel Erickson CA I am a nurse practitioner working in an emergency department in San Francisco. Everyday our ED is filled with individuals that have no access to primary care through poor access or no insurance and use the ED as their source for everyday care. Clearly a misdirection of precious services. I struggle daily to get people the care they need to keep them healthy and get appropriate followup but most often they are directed to attempt to figure it out on their own. Likely to only represent to another or the same ED for similar or related concerns. This cycle of care is not the way to a healthy and covered population.

David P. Adalian, Jr. CA That anyone must go without adequate healthcare in a country this rich is a crime.

CALIFORNIA continued

- Kim Deslauriers** CA I have a beautiful baby boy and I'd like to think that in my lifetime that he won't have to worry about healthcare.
- Karen Tracy** CA As the parent of an adult son with a chronic illness, it is heartbreaking that there will be no healthcare for him if something happens to me. Who will care for the people who can't fend for themselves? There should be compassionate healthcare for all.
- JOE Vera** CA Here we are the wealthiest nation WITHOUT Universal Health care.....Sad.
- Dennis Paull** CA We can do it if we all work together.
- Gerald Comisar** CA The US is the only developed nation that does not have national health insurance. Now our health system is due to implode due to runaway drug costs and high insurance administrative fees. Both factors can be eliminated by a single-payer health system -- like every other modern nation.
- Candace DeCou** CA Just waiting to die for lack of healthcare insurance in my underemployed old age.
- Michael Perez** CA Whenever healthcare is discussed, we always seem to worry about the insured and the uninsured. Why not just eliminate the insurance middle person. There should be healthcare that is available to every American. We can pay for it in taxes. We already pay for it in insurance premiums, why not just pay taxes and be taken care of. I have the same beliefs Quoted by: David Tillyer in NY
- Randall Smith** CA Many of my friends are being devastated by the health insurance situation in this country, staying in dead-end jobs for the sake of the (usually meager) health benefits, or postponing critical health care because they are uninsured or their insurer won't pay for it. If members of Congress had no health insurance for themselves and their families, how long would they allow the situation to last? They would pass the needed legislation within hours! The fact is, however, members of Congress have *great* taxpayer-provided health insurance for the rest of their lives, so it appears they're perfectly happy to screw the rest of us. This is a shameful disgrace for members of all parties.
- Greta Zeit** CA Healthcare is a Right, Not a Privilege!
- Gerald Hunt** CA In spite of having insulin dependent diabetes for over 35 years, I have maintained my physical condition equivalent to at least 50% of healthy people my age. I have had contact with non-value added private health insurance companies during many of those years and they only obstructed not facilitated care. I purchased health care benefits for company staff as part of my professional accounting duties and spent a great deal of my time resolving claim disputes for employees, plus I was astonished at the actuarial rates which were being calculated for the costs of those benefits. Actuarial premiums rates are based more on company risk avoidance than on population risk probability which is why there are so many people (17% of our population) without access to affordable health care insurance policies. That DOES NOT count the people who have health insurance policies that will not cover their actual health care needs, more commonly known as the uncounted, underinsured population.
- Iona Kusmiak** CA **Anything less than single-payer is a farce. If it leaves the insurance companies still in charge, WE DON'T WANT IT!**
- Priscilla Dianne Timmerman** CA I have had breast cancer 3 times (once without medical insurance). I was more distressed about how we were going to pay the bills than about having the disease. I remember vividly the first day I had chemotherapy (1988); the nurse gave my husband a prescription for a medication to prevent mouth sores (which the chemo would produce). He came back and said he had paid \$175 for it. I was very upset because that was a huge amount of money to us at that time. I would need that prescription six times in six months and all the stress about the money did me no good in my recovery. Health care is a right not a privilege.
- Stuart Codron** CA I am a doctor who is tired of the insurance companies profiting from the lack of care they provide their patients.
- Susan Weber** CA Single payer health care will enable workers to change jobs freely, reduce the prison population by providing early and aggressive treatment for substance abuse and mental illness, and insure quality health care for all at prices far below what our current profit-based system imposes. It makes so much sense that we can't afford not to adopt it.
- Irvin Jones** CA please pass this much needed bill

CALIFORNIA continued

- Lisa Davis** CA I support single payer healthcare. Please pass HR 676.
- Fred Sokolow** CA If every other non-third world country can have a single payer health plan, we can too.
- Pamela Hall** CA Americans deserve health care they can afford!
- Joel Isaacs, Ph.D.** CA Do it, for God's sake!
- Heather Tindall, MD MPH** CA **I speak for many young physicians when I say that we would prefer to practice medicine in a nation that prioritized health over profits. Many members of the American Medical Student Association and the National Physicians Alliance support a single-payer government-sponsored national health insurance program. Were there more education in medicine around these issues, I believe that many more would support this movement in healthcare reform. Very few MDs/DOs like the current system. We need a change, and it has to be real and meaningful change.**
- Janet Cobb** CA Every American deserves health care.
- Gail Weininger** CA Although individual states may manage to pass some sort of health care legislation, it would be far better to bypass such piecemeal coverage and have truly universal NATIONAL health care--long overdue!
- Paul Canin** CA The current system of multiple payers wastes time & money in administrative costs with a resultant poorer delivery of actual health care. The doctors are overburdened with the paperwork & have to hire staff just to deal with that problem. This adds to the cost of service. Single payer works fine for the V.A. & Medicare. If our congressmen also think its good enough for them it should be good enough for the rest of us.
- Sheri Smith** CA Americans like to boast that this is the richest and most powerful nation on earth. But this is empty boasting & wholesale fiction, when our nation provides NO safety net thru national healthcare, affordable housing & access to higher education for ALL. Rather, our leaders are our predators, preying on the most vulnerable among us first. We must right this civil wrong!
- Katie Turner** CA What a concept - taking care of basic needs! Isn't that Democracy by definition?
- Joe Trybyszewski** CA A national health care system will translate in billions of dollars of savings for employers and will, thus, stimulate this economy.
- Crystal Di'Anno** CA I have just been diagnosed with breast cancer. I am one of the lucky ones - while I am not working (full time student) I have insurance. Millions of other women are not so lucky as I. Now when I'm done with my treatments, I have to worry about who will hire me as I now have a serious pre-existing condition. Employers might not want to take on an employee who will make their costs go up. With universal health care for all, think of the positive effect on the American economy and productivity! No more job lock! No more people afraid to start their own businesses because of pre-existing conditions or just plain age! More disabled people could be employed and taxPAYERS instead of existing on Social Security and Medicare. In my opinion: Universal healthcare would pay for itself rapidly in economic productivity. Not only that, it is the only just and fair thing to do. We are the richest country, the most innovative, the pioneers in democracy and justice for all. Let us be just for all in the area of health care.
- J Elias, M.D. FAAP** CA Long overdue. Our Nation, the wealthiest in the world. Our children, millions without health care. This is HOW to fix it.
- Laura Hovermale** CA How many people have to die because they can't afford the proper health care? This is not an option... it is a necessity!!!
- Billie Chandler** CA Healthcare should be available to all.
- Denis Mosgofian** CA Make up your mind: health care is either a right or a privilege. Congress, if you support it as privilege, vote against HR 676. If you and your constituents need it, want it, and believe it is a right for Americans, then vote for HR 676. You appropriate about \$2 billion/day for war and "defense" but cannot vote for single payer health care???
- Tom Moore, Jr.** CA Thanks to John Conyers for putting in a clean, straightforward plan built on Medicare. Perhaps the debate will begin in Washington, at last.

CALIFORNIA continued

- Vickie Wilson, LCSW** CA I watched as managed care helped to destroy the health care system in California. The only thing that makes sense is a single payer system. It would be more cost effective and provide far superior care than we are giving and getting with the current system that is now just another corporation for more profit for the wealthy.
- Marion Perez** CA please pass this bill. The elderly and the ill in my family need the help.
- Marion Perez** CA Nurses understand this is the direction to take for medical coverage. This government steals so much money from the elderly and ill yet, pays nothing to help those over 80. They would rather just see them die than help.
- Renee Palmonari** CA Taking Care of Our Nation's Health guarantees that we care for our people---physically, mentally, and spiritually, letting no one unattended.
- Linda Sullivan** CA Health care in the US is a national shame. So much wasted money, so many high tech cures, so few people able to afford it. People should not have to choose between medical treatment and food, or medical treatment and housing. The people of America need as good medical care as the people in congress enjoy.
- Susan Bergman** CA It is shameful that this rich nation does not provide this basic human right - health care.
- Eva-Lynn Moses** CA In the Rocky Mountain News today, an article said that emergency room doctors were seeing more and more uninsured people coming in with advanced stages of illnesses because they couldn't afford to go to a doctor. It said that 18,000 adults die each year because they are uninsured and cannot get proper care. Something has to be done.
- Florence E. James** CA The Congress (both Democrats and Republicans) is protecting the profits of the insurance industry. This is the ONLY reason we cannot establish national health insurance! They are going to bankrupt the nation if they continue to try to pay for Iraq and give tax breaks to the very wealthy! I have never seen such stupidity in my 73 years!!!!
- Robert Delgadillo** CA About time.
- Rosemary Lee** CA Health care is a human right not a commodity; we should have free health care for all people in our country.
- Walter Crowe** CA Time we joined the advanced industrialized countries; why is there plenty of money for the military and nothing for the rest of us?
- Ellen Finkelpearl** CA My good friend who works hard as an entertainer has no health coverage because he can't afford it, and now is facing a serious back problem which he will be unable to have treated. This should not be happening in this ridiculously wealthy country.
- Kristi Baker** CA Private insurance is the problem, NOT the solution. The same thinking that got us into this mess most certainly will not get us out of it.
- Matthew Snyder** CA We need to provide universal health-care to each and every citizen in this country. It is moral responsibilities for governments to provide health-care for its citizens no matter the income bracket, social class, race, age or gender.
- Linda McClure** CA Single payer health care is the only rational way to go.
- Pamela Norton** CA This act would make our country not only physically healthier but politically as well.
- Patricia Windle** CA I feel that many of us struggle when it comes to the rising cost of healthcare and the majority of America's working families can't afford it. We no longer can eat healthy meals because it's getting too expensive to buy vegetables and the healthy foods that go along with it. Our health insurance costs are cutting into our means to live healthier lives.
- Linda McClure** CA The candidate backing HR 676 will have my vote in 2008.
- Claudia Chaufan** CA When will we stop these endless 'controversies' and false debates? When will we realize that treating medical care like fancy shoes that we should comparison shop for and which unless we "feel" the cost we will consume mindlessly is nonsense? How long shall we keep on trying to reinvent the wheel? All industrialized nations do it. Why not we? Please support HR676, the only universal proposal that controls costs effectively, can deliver health care efficiently, at the same time that it treats it as a social right, as it should be. Respectfully, Claudia Chaufan, MD, PhD

- Clare Vazin** CA Universal health care is a human right.
- Fred Sokolow** CA Every other non-third world country has a good single payer health plan, why can't we?
- William Linford** CA Get the Health Insurance Companies out of the game and we can all have better health care than the highest paying insureds now get. And it will cost less money than we are now paying. Individuals, employers and governments at all levels should pay for an expanded medicare with greatly expanded benefits. It will cost less than we now pay and can be managed so as to keep costs from growing so rapidly.
- Phil Thompson** CA The free market business model works fairly well for a lot of things. It's clear, though, that it's not working for health care. Our current system is hurting America's economy. Universal health care can make our country stronger.
- Sally Adams** CA I need dental work but can not afford it, I'll loose all my teeth in time, I was turned down by ALL state agencies because "I made to much last year" which was 14,000.00 in California. HA! And now I'm an unemployed student, and I still get no help from the government!!
- Mimi Kennedy** CA A strong nation is not determined by military destructive power. It is determined by its people's mental and physical health. We have done so much to destroy this, with environmental poison and toxic food, and special interests have denied the science. Let us turn to caring for each other now, and invest our money in that mutual endeavor and demand that our medical corporations engage with us to truly serve the public health, not just private health; that way lies suffering, civil unrest and extinction.
- Angelica Canedo** CA Our leaders go to church routinely, but they don't want to provide this affordable basic human right. These same leaders force our children to recite "one nation under God"... What a bunch of hypocrites!
- Andrew Calman** CA The goals of our two organizations are closely aligned (see www.demdocs.org) -- our country cannot afford four more years of the status quo.
- Priscilla Dianne Timmerman** CA Wouldn't our nation be more productive if all citizens could be as healthy as they could be? Yes!
- Brad Bulger** CA Imagine calling 911 to report that your house is on fire, and the first question you have to answer is, "Do you have fire insurance?" This is the only plan that makes real sense, not or ly financially, but from a public health standpoint as well.
- Steven Tan** CA It's sad that despite the fact we're the richest, most powerful nation on earth, we also have one of the highest poverty and uninsured percentages of industrialized nations. How cor ie this doesn't make the nightly news???
- Marilyn Milkman** CA I am a practicing physician and I endorse this plan for universal health coverage. It is a moral outrage that all Americans do not have access to health care.
- Katharine M. Heidkamp** CA There is great need to provide access to health services. I hope you can support this bill. Thank you for your constant concern for the good old the people. Respectfully, KMH
- Katharine M. Heidkamp** CA There is great need to provide access to health services. I hope you can support this bill. Thank you for your constant concern for the good old the people. Respectfully, KMH
- Paris Nattboy** CA I went through 8 months of hell trying to get health insurance. No insurance company would cover me, because of a hereditary condition that I've had all my life, but had been officially diagnosed in the last four year. This hereditary condition, (ET) Essential Tremor, is completely benign! Yet, none of the underwriters for the insurance companies had ever heard of it, so I was turned down over and over again—even though I am in perfect health. Finally, my husband and I were able to get insurance by forming a company partnership. This is insane to say the least! No one should have to go through this kind of red tape to have the privilege of being treated when sick. Keeping people in our society health is a benefit to all.
- Richard Graeser** CA It is an embarrassment to this country that health care is not provided to ALL. Let's show the world, why we are the greatest!
- Filiberto Rodriguez** CA Read the book "Critical Condition" by Barlett and Steele.
- Monica Mora** CA National health care services must be made available. It's our moral obligation. Thank you.

CALIFORNIA continued

- Sandra Burton Greenstein** CA Even if you can afford a health plan, what happens to you in an accident if ERs/trauma units lack funds and close? (Happening now!) Everyone suffers without benefits for all!
- Christopher Ortega** CA We all need Health Care Insurance.
- Christopher Ortega** CA We all need Health Care Insurance.
- DEBBIE ORTEGA** CA I am a union organizer and if you can only see some of the heartache that people go through working two jobs at minimum wage with no health care insurance. It is very sad that this is going on here in this great country of ours. Our forefathers would be ashamed of us.
- Suzanne Peterson** CA An absolute necessity!
- Blair Grubbs** CA This is a much better use of our money than fighting an unnecessary and costly war in Iraq don't you agree?
- Hollis Polk** CA We all need national health insurance. Its past due.
- Devin Kreider** CA NOW!
- Julia Prange** CA It's about time America listens to Congressman like Kucinich and Conyers, authors of HR 676
- Tam Gray** CA One hopes that this country has grown to the extent that universal health care should be a certainty, well deserved by faithful tax-paying citizens.
- Suzanne Keehn** CA It is true we are the only so called modern nation that does not have universal health care. The single payer system makes sense and will save money.
- DEBBIE ORTEGA** CA I am a union organizer and if you can only see some of the heartache that people go through working two jobs at minimum wage with no health care insurance. It is very sad that this is going on here in this great country of ours. Our forefathers would be ashamed of us.
- Donna Fanning** CA I believe every legal citizen of the US should have healthcare.
- Anthony Gallardo** CA A National Health Care Program that covers everyone is the only civilized way to make sure that all people receive health care. Our current system is a national disgrace.
- Dennis Paull** CA It is a national shame that the US is the ONLY industrialized country in the world without a universal health insurance plan!
- Richard Nieto** CA Great! I wholeheartedly support universal health coverage for all! Please keep me apprised on this bill. I will phone my Congressman Adam Schiff to support it.
- Mary Bess** CA Healthcare is a basic human right. We deserve healthcare at least the equal of that which we provide for our elected representatives in the Congress.
- Arlene Inouye** CA Single payer health care is the only way to effectively address our health care crisis. The people of America need this.
- Robert Kuzia** CA It's long past due that we join the ranks of the rest of the civilized world by not worrying how we can avoid financial ruin if we face a long illness.
- Brad Thrasher** CA Best of luck to you in this effort.
- Mayra Mendoza** CA Healthcare is a human right.
- Cory Ervin** CA This is long over due!!!!
- Richard Wake** CA Health Care for everyone!

CALIFORNIA continued

- Sharon Johnson** CA It is embarrassing that such a wealthy, well educated country that preaches humanitarian goals to world does such a poor job taking care of their own
- Lydia Flores** CA How can we spend millions of dollars keeping drug babies alive and not provide for the American people of the land?
- Monique Koller** CA Access to health care is a right-to-life issue. All society benefits when everyone gets the health care they need.
- Monique Koller** CA Access to health care is a right-to-life issue. All society benefits when everyone gets the health care they need.
- Esther Wanning** CA It's a crime to be sick in the USA. We're all one slip away from becoming bankrupt social outcasts, and this lack of compassion in our society is so stressful that it makes people sicker. We'd all be healthier the instant universal health care passed.
- Dennis Shaughnessy** CA Do it!
- Audrey Alorro** CA How a society provides for the health of its members is one indication of the health of that society. This nation is sorely in need of healing. Healthcare for All Now!
- Nicole Moore** CA My brother-in-law became homeless when he was fired from a job because he asked for healthcare insurance. A real healthcare solution is long overdue!
- Myles Sussman** CA The "culture of life" wouldn't allow us to have an infant mortality rate between Cuba's and Croatia's.
- Myles Sussman** CA The "culture of life" wouldn't allow us to have an infant mortality rate between Cuba's and Croatia's.
- Martin Gutierrez** CA As a student and tax payer, I would like for all of us to have affordable healthcare. I believe it would be un-American that healthcare is not provided here in the United States to all its citizens. I would like to support this petition and its organization for the purpose of providing a program that would cover all Americans. Thank you. Sincerely, Martin Gutierrez
- Karen Warren** CA This is a critical issue. We should pressure Kerr 7 to support this type of legislation.
- Terry Morris** CA I'm a licensed health insurance agent and I stand to lose income by the passage of the bill, but, I feel it's a travesty with how health insurance companies continue to increase premiums in skyrocket fashion, cut corners on coverages forcing the insureds to pay more out of their pocket. All of this is done under the guise of ever rising drug cost and other medical expenses. Yet, huge bonuses are still being paid out to the corporate heads of these companies. "One" can't help but wonder when bigger health companies buy out smaller health companies, then deny that they are not helping to pay for their leverage buyouts by placing more premium burdens on the backs on their insureds. It's hard to believe them when insurance premiums go up dramatically soon after the purchase. It's shameful and disgraceful, and it needs to change. Americans deserve a better system, and shouldn't suffer as a result of corporate greed.
- Joseph Hancock** CA I lost my job and I don't have any health insurance. I'm disabled, and I cannot work. I support this plan and I would like to support the campaign. Please put me in touch with like minded people in L.A. area. Thanks
- Gail Ryall** CA Long overdue.
- Rebecca Vaden** CA I am a strong believer in health care for all.
- Dorothy Wake** CA Single-payer, universal healthcare NOW! US citizens/taxpayers deserve the same quality healthcare as those who are elected by us & paid with our tax dollars to SERVE US! Shouldn't the "employers" have what "employees" have?!!!
- Dave Brast** CA Long overdue.

CALIFORNIA continued

- Jacques Caillault** CA Sell an aircraft carrier or two - or a stack of cruise missiles. That should be enough for a down payment!
- Nancy Kingston** CA Dear Congressional Representatives, It is unconscionable that over 47 million Americans are uninsured and millions more are underinsured. In addition, half of all US bankruptcies are related to excessive medical care costs. Most Americans support a single-payer, national healthcare system that addresses the shameful inequities of our existing health and medical care crisis. The time is right - the time is NOW - for members of Congress to support HR-676! The lives of your constituents depend on your doing the right thing. Thank you.
- Claudia Chaufan** CA It's a human rights' issue!
- Lupe Salazar** CA America needs change! Lets take a stand by making our voices heard we need health care for all!
- Dorri Rosenfeld** CA Fewer and fewer people are insured; something must be done.
- Shane Brinton** CA 43 million Americans have no health insurance... And we call Cuba a third world country!!! At least they have a national healthcare system. It seems that remaining a "first world" country isn't really even part of corporate America's agenda. Clearly we need universal coverage NOW!
- Wendy Ross** CA If we can spend Billions on a war designed for war profiteering which benefits the top 1%, we can afford to spend Millions for healthcare to take care of the other 99%!
- Marla Crites** CA I haven't had health coverage for 16 years, since I went from being a fulltime teacher to part time. It's time!
- Irene Purdy-Ungar** CA It's a disgrace that in this plentiful country we are lacking in health care for all. We desperately need affordable care.
- Kathryn Sawyer** CA We need basic health care for all. Many other countries already do. People shouldn't have to become poor from having to pay high medical costs.
- Sharon Linnenkohl** CA It is time to do this.
- Summer Vanslager** CA I am in huge support of this bill and believe that the majority of society is as well.
- Charles Fisher** CA Yes! It is about time to remove the laissez faire model from people's healthcare.
- Carol Dalrymple** CA Now is not soon enough.
- Amber Vera** CA It's about what we need! It's about what's right! It's about what we deserve! It's about time!!!
- Kathryn Sawyer** CA We need this bill to get each of us in the US healthcare we can afford. The US government needs to stand up to the BIG BUSINESS of the healthcare industry and say enough of the overpricing. We need healthcare for everyone.
- Jonathan Boutelle** CA Need to get more Building Trades organization behind this
- Kathleen O'Donnell** CA We need universal healthcare. Health insurance should not be subject to normal market pressures, as the rules of the market do not apply. We need to protect the health of those who create the real wealth of this nation--the workers, the entrepreneurs. If you want to help children, insure their parents! The current situation is an albatross around everyone's neck--paying for healthcare will still be an albatross, but at least all will be insured. The current situation does not provide value for the cost.
- Joe Vera** CA Let's finally join the rest of the world in providing health care for everyone.
- Ayo Handy Kendi** We must have an Universal Health Plan because of the number of poor people, Black, Brown, White and Red, in this country that are disenfranchised from private and alternative health care modalities and are therefore dying. It is outrageous in the super-power that America purports to be.
- Madelyn Morales** CA We all need health care. I remember being without, working part time, and finding a lump. I was quite scared and had to depend on county facilities, which were less than ideal. Now, again, medical insurance keeps getting more expensive and harder to get if you have ANY pre-existing conditions.

CALIFORNIA continued

- Berget Jelane** CA Universal health care is the only sane answer to our health care crisis. If the legislators won't do it, the people will!
- Andy Sekara** CA You work for us, yet you have a wonderful health plan paid for by us and we don't. Shouldn't we have an equally good health plan? Yes, we should, give us universal health care.
- Kasi Godfrey** CA the current system does not work! Complete reform is the only solution.
- Henry Norr** CA Why waste billions paying the insurance companies for useless marketing and paper-pushing, outrageous executive salaries, and fat profits for the shareholders? Medicare, the VA, and the Congressional health plan show the government can do it cheaply, effectively, and without trampling anyone's freedom!
- Cynthia Fowler** CA Great website and very informative
- Diana Ressler** CA Our country is in desperate need of a national health care plan. Please support HR 676. Thank you.
- Randy Hicks** CA the healthcare system is broken and we have to fix it and this is the only answer.
- Marilyn Milkman** CA I am a practicing physician in the state of California, and I think that the current medical care situation in this country is a moral outrage. We desperately need a single payer system in the US.
- Linda Sullivan** CA Congress must support comprehensive national health. We can't continue to gamble on our health care. Risk management should mean healthy lifestyle not the refusal by insurance companies to provide health care to sick people.
- Robin Roseberry** CA I will be 50 yrs old in July 06. I have been disabled since 2002 due to strokes. I applied for SSI disability but was denied it and also lost my appeal. I also have C.O.P.D. (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) which is an incurable, terminal disease, they can only treat the symptoms. I am homebound due to my disabilities and the DMV have permanently taken away my drivers license and given me disabled license plates and plaque. My Dr. has signed an affidavit stating that I cannot live alone, but I can not afford 24 hr in home care provider. I currently have Medi-Cal/ Blue Cross coverage which is free and they pay for my medications (which cost about \$500.00 a month...But I am loosing my medical coverage, thus also loosing my medications...without them my life will be shortened drastically. We need to have a medical program that is free or very low cost for people like me. I currently have no income of my own and my son whom I live with cannot afford medical coverage for me or himself and still pay rent and utilities just to survive. What is a person in my situation suppose to do? Just not have medical insurance thereby not being able to pay for my medications which are keeping me alive. Am I just supposed to give up and die? We NEED free and/or very low cost medical and prescription coverage for people like me without fall through the "Federal and State government cracks". Most insurance companies will not cover "current medical conditions" PLEASE help and sign this petition and help those in desperate need of medical/prescription coverage
- Gregor Deras** CA what kind of country are we to have such a lame medical system. cut the greed out and lets take care of our peeps
- Aaron Hirsch** CA Dreams do come true.....
- Susan Duerksen** CA Nothing else makes sense.
- John Keyon** CA Funding for the defense budget should come after all citizens' needs are met. Tax cuts for the wealthiest of our society is outrageous!
- Marion Schulman** CA We cannot call ourselves a leader in the free world if we do not have healthcare for all of our citizens. The poor in this country live a 3rd world existence. Health is our most important problem.
- Laura Turiano, PA-C** CA Health and Health Care are human rights.
- Emily Maloney** CA A must for providing health care coverage for everyone - and far less costly than the present system.

CALIFORNIA continued

- Lee Grude** CA This senior is beginning to see how difficult affordable health care is to get when it's needed most.
- Richey Grude** CA...that we joined other developed nations in having comprehensive, uncomplicated health care for their citizens!
- Richard Graeser** CA What an embarrassment for the USA to be ranked 37th in the world in health care! Let's take care of one another now before it's too late.
- Carolyn Carosella** CA I'm single, work a full time job and still CAN'T AFFORD health insurance! Let's pass this bill!!
- Venessa Waite** CA I'm a single parent. I work five shifts a week and I still don't qualify for insurance with my employer, nor do I qualify for government insurance benefits. I've been going through screenings for both breast and cervical cancer and I have no insurance. It's scary. Fortunately, I have Healthy Families coverage for my child. I'm hoping that the government will implement a similar program for adults. Every single person should be important despite their age. If the parent(s) are well and taken care of physically, then the children of that household benefit.
- Todd Whitesel** CA We really do have the best government that money can buy. Big Food sells us carb candy with too little protein and almost no fiber. Big Pharma sells us drugs at sucker prices that help our symptoms but don't cure us so we need to keep taking them for life. And inflation has driven the cost of medical care so high that insurance companies are shafting their least healthy patients so they can stay profitable. An ounce of prevention truly is worth a pound of cure!
- Deborah Walker** CA Universal health care should be added to the Bill of Rights!
- Pamela Williams** CA my children qualify for healthy families but I don't qualify for anything. If I get sick we all go back on welfare
- Judy Prejean** CA I am part of the under insured. My catastrophic insurance coverage started out at \$93 a month and has gone to \$143 a month in two years. This for a \$5000 deductible that first requires a hospital stay before the coverage kicks in. I would gladly pay into a system if I knew I could get good coverage and not be canceled on a whim by the insurance companies (something that I hear Blue Cross has done in many states). I am a healthy individual and do my best to stay that way so that I don't incur the cost. This is very scary to say the least. Something needs to be done NOW.
- Shirley Harlan** CA We have been working on this issue for years. Let us do it now. Single Payer Health Care for All.
- Bonnie Martin** CA I encourage our congress to hold hearings on HR 676 at the earliest possible moment and work toward passing this very important piece of legislation.
- Tojny Renella** CA A light at the end of the tunnel, about time!

COLORADO

- Teresa Prokop** CO Stop THE GREED!!
- Cecelia Barrocas** CO Rep. Conyers' plan (HR 676) makes the most sense of any proposal in recent memory. Affordable health care for everyone is a must.
- Wynne Dimock** CO Our lack of support for health care for all when 37 other countries see this as a "basic right" for all is an indication itself of our "sickness" and need for ethical resuscitation.
- Mark Prokop** CO Take The Profit Out Of Healthcare. IT IS UnAmerican!!
- Debra Reichert** CO We desperately need affordable healthcare for all our citizens.
- Margaret Fullerton** CO Not having a single payer system in place is morally indefensible and criminal. What possible opposition can there be to such a system?

COLORADO continued

Karen Wyatt CO As the Medical Director of a clinic for the uninsured, I see hundreds of hard-working Americans every month who are living without health insurance. Most of them have worked all their lives and some hold two jobs, yet they cannot access the same level of healthcare services as those of you who make the laws we live by. This is unconscionable in a society that defines itself as moral and ridiculous to the developed nations of the world that we believe to be inferior to ours. It is time to wake up!!! Please do the RIGHT thing and support HR 676.

Paul A Smith CO This petition makes more sense than our health care "system"!

Maargaret LaTourrette CO I am a pediatrician and we desperately need universal health care

Kenneth G. Prunty CO This is much needed. For a rich nation like ours to not have health care for all is an abomination.

Elizabeth Hodges CO As a teacher my Healthcare costs for my family went from \$300 to \$600 per month. Could you please pay my daycare bill, because I still owe that \$300 also!

Mark Keene CO I had to be hospitalized after 25 years of paying insurance premiums. When I moved states the health insurance companies denied me insurance due to my hospitalization. This is wrong!!! It is time Congress does something about this issue.

Janie Rosen CO What's the delay?

Elizabeth Hodges CO As a teacher my Healthcare costs for my family went from \$300 to \$600 per month. Could you please pay my daycare bill, because I still owe that \$300 also!

Beverly Ford CO I have been an RN for 34 years and have seen the unbelievable health costs escalating. I have seen family members go without care for serious problems because they were too "rich" for assistance. I have seen, and it is not a pretty sight. Our country CAN do better to our citizens then this!!

Jean and John H. Hodges CO It is urgent that our country offer health insurance to the 45 million people now without any coverage. This is disgraceful that people must choose the bare necessities for survival and cannot afford health insurance.

Jim Roberts CO We've all been waiting for far too long while the money is squandered on military spending! It's time to change our national priorities!

Nick Manning CO As a global hegemony and potential "moral" leader in today's globalized world it is about time we stepped up to domestic issues by enabling our citizens to lead healthy, productive lives free from fear of disease and medical quagmires.

Elizabeth Kinney CO As an emergency room physician, I see people come to the ER routinely who have waited too long because they have no insurance. They suffer needlessly and we ALL pay more in the end

Anne Courtright CO The only way to get comprehensive, quality, affordable health care is to get away from the use of insurance companies with their high administrative and marketing costs and extravagant profits. WE NEED A NATIONAL TAX SUPPORTED SINGLE PAYER HEALTH PLAN. WE NEED HB 676.

MaryAlice McComb CO We need a single-risk pool system, tax supported, as soon as we can reflectively and carefully work out the details. We need particularly to utilize existing public systems as models and plan for both transition, sustainability, and differing regional needs. The public, for the most part, is receptive to a national system.

Mark Rogers CO The simple fact is that people are dying out here. Our local health clinic sees hundreds of patients who wait until conditions become severe before they risk the expense of seeing doctors. Undiagnosed, many ailments become severe or lethal. As a nation, we must do everything we can to ensure that all people, and not merely the wealthy and the insured, have access to competent health care.

Fredrick Silverman CO Passage of this legislation is long over due. Millions of our citizens don't have insurance coverage, and many are under insured. Passage of the bill would save millions in paper work alone, and it would aid millions of our countrymen to obtain medical care for themselves or loved ones. Please help by passing this bill.

COLORADO continued

Helen Taylor CO As someone who lives in a rural area and works for a healthcare organization, I feel it is extremely important to ensure that all Americans get the health care they need regardless of whether they have access to insurance or not. I have long believed that health care is a right, not a privilege reserved for the wealthy and those whose employers provide healthcare coverage. Even when an employer provides healthcare, some of the lower paid workers cannot afford to pay for it. From what I have read, the national healthcare proposal would be available to all regardless of a person's income level. Also I believe that the healthcare providers should be allowed to concentrate on giving care, not on all the administrative requirements of hundreds if not thousands of various insurance programs. I support the proposal to provide money to retrain those that may be displaced at the insurance companies when national health care is implemented.

Amy Bullock CO I support HR 676!

Michael Hartmann CO I find it amazing that the politicians in DC have their own physician and the very best coverage available. The same is true for every state house. I, on the other hand work 60 hours a week as a self employed CPA can't afford the coverage, my wife can't get the surgery she needs, but my lazy ass mother in law, on medicaid just gets everything handed to her. Thank God for attorneys for suing this totally failed system out of existence! Mike

Yehoram Weiler CO I'm 59 years old and haven't had my own health insurance since August of 2002. I estimate that insurance for me would now cost around \$700 / month. I can't afford it. Yet the US spends \$1 Billion/ week in Iraq. This makes no sense to me.

Roberta Moreland CO Get sick, go broke, then die. I will be the first to go followed by my husband who will follow the same process except he will already be broke. That, in turn, will cause his sickness. We are telling people in this country that if they can't afford medical care, just die and get it over with. We need to be a leader for the world on this issue. Instead we are a laggard. It's so embarrassing. What a terrible example we set. And what an ungodly way to exist.

Mark Rogers CO I have already seen far too many people, including family members, die because they lacked the resources to pay for adequate healthcare. It is incumbent upon us all to ensure that all Americans can see a physician without worrying about the costs. This is a basic human right that our nation has ignored shamefully for far too long.

Donna Jacobs CO Even in primitive society health care has been available to all, so why not in ours? Access to health care is a sign of the spiritual health as well as the physical health of a people.

Denton McCullough CO Universal Health Care NOW!

Aline Hansen-Guzman CO AS a medical student I have seen the failures of our current health care system firsthand. As one of the wealthiest nations in the world we must do more for the health of our citizens

Myra Schneider CO I work for a Human Services agency, and I see the hardship every day from people who have fallen on hard times and cannot afford medical care. I think it is a shame that the richest country in the world cannot provide for all the people who need basic health care, but cannot afford it.

Ruella Anderson CO This is the most important issue facing America today.

Marshall Stiles III, M.D. CO As a physician for 27 years, I have always believed, since my first year in medical school, in the concept of health care being a RIGHT, not a privilege, of all people everywhere, and especially in the USA.

Steve Urban CO Exploiting the sick and infirmed has become commonplace and acceptable in our society. Insurance and drug companies have stacked the deck and greedy doctors and administrators play along!

Rhonda Johnson CO Lack of health care hurts everyone - individuals, companies, the country!

Fredrick Silverman CO Such a plan as the USNHI Act proposed is long overdue. Not only would its passage benefit millions of Americans, it would also benefit our country in the near and long term by eliminating all sorts of middle level expenses, as among others.

COLORADO continued

- Jeni Dingman** CO The fact that we have so many uninsured is a disgrace. Tax breaks for businesses to insure will never solve the problem. Fair competition can only exist in an elective arena for those who can afford it. In order for the archaic healthcare delivery system to reform, it must have sweeping changes. The present system breeds sickness, unnecessary care, obesity and depends too much on medications. Hospitals spend billions of dollars to upgrade in order to compete with one another, while they simultaneously foreclose on the homes and businesses of the uninsured, who are not eligible for discounts that the insurers get. Our finest providers have no time to educate their massive patient loads on the basics of human survival that promote common sense and healthy lifestyles as they struggle to conform to the agonizing policies of the insurance industry. How much waste will be tolerated with the final cost being human life? A huge and complex system like this is a dangerous breeding ground for assembly line care, a place where too many mistakes are made. Our present system is a place where no one can learn from those mistakes so they are repeated consistently; causing much unnecessary patient injury and suffering that drive the costs even higher. The cycle must be broken.
- Jim Berry** CO Yes, let's do this!
- Carolyn Waller** CO Yes! Please!
- Patsy Buchanan** CO Millions of people are unemployed or underemployed with no health insurance. We must be able to provide health insurance to ALL! Not just those who happen to be employed or wealthy.
- Elinor Christiansen** CO The crisis in health care in our country is the leading domestic problem. National health insurance which covers everyone from birth to death. Single payer universal health care, is the simplest, fairest and most economic solution, saving cost and giving relief to employers. I am a physician and I strongly support H.R.676.
- Janet Seeley** CO As a physician and asthma specialist, I daily see the negative impact of free-market medicine on my patients, their families the community and on myself and colleagues. Market-driven medicine is putting the health of our citizens, the U.S economy and our security at great risk. The changes needed are as radical as the surgery required to remove extensive cancer, for the current system is malignant.
- Patsy Buchanan** CO **People must be educated to understand that a single payers plan will cost less money for all and be more equitable for all ... those presently insured and those with no insurance.**
- Jill Patton** CO The country needs this bill!
- Jillian Fischer** CO I'm a student seeking a Doctorate in Nursing Practice, and I find it unacceptable that so many Americans cannot afford basic health care. The United States is supposed to represent freedom, liberty, equality and respect for all people; how on earth can we continue to deny health care to so many of our citizens?
- Arthur Thomas Linnell, Ed.D.** CO Each one who steps forward on this issue is a leader. HR 676 points the way. Please, have the courage to step up, sign on, and lead our great country toward health care for all.
- Cynthia Hanford** Even those of us who have insurance are dissatisfied and do not have access to needed health care because of copayments or being denied coverage on the issue needed. We also need to contain health care costs, which are ridiculous. We need a single-payer, universal system that includes access to dental, vision and mental health services.
- Jill Patton** CO Access to affordable health care for all should be a right and not a privilege.
- Michele Papale** CO **My pay as substitute teacher was cut 1/3, due to rising health costs of teachers. We remove access from more & more people.**
- Betty Leyerle** CO We should have covered everyone under Medicare to begin with. That's what many of us wanted and it might well have happened if free market ideologues and corporate "leaders" hadn't launched a campaign in the early 1970s to prevent it. We can thank them for the mess we're in now.
- Tyler Quintano** CO For the good health of Americans
- Judy Corwin** CO I understand that our wonderful country is the only industrialized nation not to offer health care to all of its citizens. This is unconscionable. I guess our country is not so wonderful after all and won't be until every man, woman, and child has the safety net of good health care.

COLORADO continued

- Ginny Doft** CO I am age 62 and finding affordable health care is becoming increasingly difficult. Please help me.
- David Doft** CO Many of us need help now in getting access to reasonable Health Care!
- Wynne Dimock** CO Can petitions be signed at the upcoming health fairs (am volunteering as RN)
- Charles W. Placker** CO Most countries in the world have health care for everybody. Let's get with the program!
- Dr. Victoria Gardner** CO Health care is not a luxury or an option, but rather the divine and constitutional right of every citizen in this country. We are guaranteed the "right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," and adequate health care is simply part of those rights, especially the right to life. Sickness, injury and death infringe upon all other rights. For example, freedom of speech is denied if one has untreated throat cancer or bronchitis. The right to defend ones self (if accused of a crime) is denied if one has an untreated mental illness or brain injury. Even the "right to bear arms" is infringed upon if one has a broken arm that remains unfixed. Almost every other civilized country in the world has universal health coverage. It's way past time for the U.S. to get out of "the Dark Ages".
- Virginia Knittle** CO Please do your job as an elected official and pass Universal Health Care HR676. For a wealthy country like the USA where so much goes not toward providing health care for every man, woman and child, but to insurance companies, their executives and paperwork, is a disgrace and wrong. Thank you for putting the welfare of the citizens you represent before the greed of large corporations.
- Rita Marsh** CO I am an RN self employed in as an integral health educator and consultant. I cannot afford health insurance. I am one of the estimated 46 million people without insurance. If I become ill or have an accident I will be destitute. I have long been a proponent for universal coverage as I know it would in the long run save money for the organizations who are currently carrying the burden of the cost of care for uninsured. I support this petition.
- Hugh Sanborn** CO Health care should be made available to all Americans without delay.
- Bernard Birnbaum, MD** CO As a primary care physician I see the problems with poor insurance coverage and access every day. If our society can afford to participate in international conflicts, we can afford to care for our own population. We must work toward guaranteed coverage now - before our system collapses!
- Kathlene Waller** CO The richest country in the world not providing quality healthcare to all of its citizens is a moral outrage! As a physician and a Christian, I call upon my legislators to pass legislation creating single-payer national health insurance for all. It is a medical, moral, and economic imperative and the majority of Americans support it, as you will see in the next election!
- Donna Jacobs** CO The only reason this hasn't already happened is because health care is BIG business instead of people business and that's WRONG!
- Molly McNeely BSN** CO America has long been the richest, most powerful country in the world. It's time for us to become humane as well, simply by giving ALL our citizens access to health care.
- Tara Miller** CO IT IS ABOUT TIME WE GET WHAT WE ARE P'AYING FOR!
- Dolores Williams** CO It is past time that the USA provide all with universal single-payer health care (Expanded Medicare for All (HR676) and/or Medicare for All (S.2229). We just have to get Democrats elected (majority) to get these bills out of committee.
- Dolores Williams** CO It is time to get behind HR676 now and ask everyone we meet to ask our legislators to sign on. Of course, getting Democrats in the majority in the House would make it happen.
- Randall Stanley** CO It is known fact that insurance companies that sell health insurance policies, health care providers and prescription drug companies will oppose this or any type of grass roots movement because it will hit them where it hurts the most. I say let it hurt like the American population has for so many years. We made them billionaires and they still are greedy. God speed with the project and every bill it takes in Congress until every American can have the opportunity for health care.
- Ruella Anderson** CO The only way to halt outsourcing, company bankruptcies, (Auto makers) and to increase our health and well being is with a single payer health care system. We need action now!

COLORADO continued

Julie Gleason CO My health care premium is \$825 PER MONTH for 1 person for a \$2,000 deductible. Does anyone in Congress come anywhere close to paying this obscene amount?

Mary Boland CO Way to go! I'm delighted to hear about you. I hope we can get this done.

Anne Courtright CO I believe that a National Single Payer Health Plan is the only reasonable solution to the current fragmented condition of the health care industry. I do not believe that exorbitant profits have a place in the provision of health care. The American people deserve better. Please enact HB #676 soon.

Elinor Christiansen (M.D.) CO The leading domestic issue in our country today is the healthcare crisis. Rising costs, lack of access (44 million uninsured and 40-60 million underinsured), poorer outcomes, limited choices, lack of continuity of care, lack of time for physician & patient communication, lack of trust, multiple profit layers, waste of resources and administrative waste are all contributing to the crisis. Our country needs a single payer universal health plan with national health insurance covering everyone from birth to death. We need to ask every candidate whether they would support such a plan before we decide how to vote.

Donna Jacobs CO This is so long overdue. As a social work graduate student at Portland State University we studied just this proposal - that was 1970. I want a universal health plan now!

CONNECTICUT

Virginia Baron CT The country is ready. Please sign on now to HR676. Your constituents will be grateful for your support on this most important issue for American citizens. Virginia Baron

Jean de Smet CT As a construction worker, I pay \$7.45 for every hour that I work into our health care fund. That's more than many people make! Rising Health Care costs will break the back of the middle class and bankrupt our country. We have no justification for the expenses because it is privately controlled. We need to start a whole new system. Universal health care will lower that cost.

Cynthia Achten CT Yea!!!

Robert Eaton CT It's about time.

Joan Kemble CT Healthcare should be a right, not a privilege

Patrick Farquharson CT A nation is judged by how it takes care of its less fortunate.

Fran Keeping CT Our money is going to all the wrong things! To do anything we must be in good health. Put healthcare first and the rest will follow.

Michael Meyer CT If we must be in a constant state of war, let it be a war for universal health care and against hunger and homelessness.

Ana Lachelier CT It grieves me to see how we are squeezing the life blood of all our citizens for a war we never agreed to and yet cannot trust our leaders to find it in their conscience to give we the people, the right to Single Payer Health Care. What has become of us?

Naomi E. & Alfred Shaiken CT It's time to get everyone involved in this effort! It's the U.S. had national health security!

Emily la Croix CT not socialized medicine but humanistic medicine. This will be a long hard fight, but the differing parties can be brought together for our national and international esteem. medicine.

Susan Meredith CT I am a labor arbitrator who tries to make equitable decisions about collective bargaining agreements. The cost of health care has become a major impediment to providing low cost goods and services to the public while paying a living wage to workers. The cost of health care dramatically distorts the issues involved in labor relations. Both management and labor must spend more time and money on a largely futile effort to contain health care costs - time which should be spent providing the best possible goods and services.

CONNECTICUT continued

- Daniel Toomey** CT A pandemic is an equal opportunity killer. Rich or poor it will sweep across the land!
- Millicent Peart** CT "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."
Dr. Martin Luther King What more needs to be said.
- Scott Schoem** CT As a physician and member of Physicians for a National Healthcare Program, I fully support HR 676 and will actively lobby for its passage.
- Susan Hyde** CT living in Canada on and off for 9 years-this system has it's problems-but the stress free fact that everyone can get med. care if they need it is civilized.
- Sadu Nanjundiah** CT An international disgrace in the richest, most powerful country that yet has money to bomb the world into submission.
- Gary Chipman** CT I was diagnosed with prostate cancer over a year ago. Fortunately, I have employer-provided health insurance. If I did not, it probably would not have been detected in time and certainly I could not have afforded the treatments. This should not be the privilege of a few, but a right for all.
- Berta Doyle** CT my son's wife, has a large problem, with here spine needs surgery, there insurance will cancel, will not take care, my son has a small business some carpentry, will lose all can not pay for here operation what ,can he do ,to get help thy both are in there ,50/'s, thy do not have a home , his wife is about 10 years older than my son, she had a back operation ,before thy even known each other, and it is not good now,
- Ashley Jensen** CT As a full-time student, it is nearly impossible to afford adequate health care, and I know that there are so many of us that will simply abstain from seeking medical attention because they can not pay for the appointment, nor can they afford any prescriptions that may be written for them. Everyone deserves a fair chance at adequate health care and it is about time that Congress does something to help the people they were elected to represent rather than help themselves.
- Erika Bergstrom** CT I fractured a bone in my back years ago, when I had health insurance through my job. I lost my job, and my insurance. Now I live with constant pain, because I can not afford healthcare. I now have a sinus infection also, and no doctor will do anything because of lack of health insurance. I was told they would like to do tests because I may need surgery, but nobody will do it. Therefore, I live with everyday sinus and back pain, all because health insurance is way too expensive.
- Ed TWILIGHT** CT free all political prisoners
- Ed TWILIGHT** CT free all political prisoners
- Crystal Beck** CT Please pass the bill
- Jane Shelly** CT It is time for this country to address this issue -- we are far behind the rest of the world on this -- even Cuba has a better health care system than we do!
- Eila Algood** CT Healthcare availability for us all, now that sounds like the American way!
- Donald Beck** CT My wife died a year ago of cancer. At one time she needed a high priced pill to stop her from up chucking. Our insurance wouldn't cover it. I'm retired. Please help our people of the USA. Pass it now.
- David Dickinson** CT WE NEED IT NOW. WE ALL NEED INSURANCE WECAN AFFORD.
- Chris Brancato** CT It's been over 10 years since I have had health insurance. One main reason, I CAN'T AFFORD IT!
- Paul Crossley** CT Lets do it now. The working person needs help to.
- Ann Crossley** CT I'm 62. I had two major surgeries in July (Emergency) and 1 on Nov.2, 2005. Both 8 days stay. I have no insurance. Couldn't get state to pay. As my life insurance had \$2000. interest. People like me need help. I worked a full time job making \$10.00 an hour. My husband \$10.50

CONNECTICUT *continued*

- Michael Santangelo** CT In a global economy US employers are cutting health benefits to keep business costs in line with companies in countries where health benefits are not provided by the employer but by the government. For those without group health care from employers independently purchased health care is too expensive and makes no sense. The only solution is a universal national health care system.
- Janet Evans** CT I am delighted to sign this unbelievable that we would not have better healthcare for all.
- Steven Wolfson** CT The more we delay, the more people will be hurt, and the more painful the transition will be. Because sooner or later, we will need to do this....
- Brooks Kelly** CT You know why we really don't have "socialized" medicine in this country? Because the wealthy and the political elites (same thing most of the time) already have decent health care--lots of money and taxpayer provided health coverage.
- Daniel Toomey** CT If a pandemic were to hit it would not discriminate. Rich and poor, young and old would fall. A national health care plan would be cost effective. My cardiologist would be happy with a plan based upon that of Germany. She is one of the brightest doctors in the area and has a huge practice. I also spoke with a top pulmonologist when visiting a local hospital. He also said the time has come to do the right thing. Is anyone listening to our healthcare providers?
- Charlotte White** CT I am hopeful with this grassroots campaign that health care for everyone will finally become a reality in our country.
- Cyndi Nance** CT Health care-a basic human need. Let's catch up to the rest of the civilized world and provide coverage for all.
- Gary Chipman** CT Who is responsible for the death of everyone who would have lived if there had been health care available when it was needed?
- brooks Kelly** CT Hopefully this will be the first of many steps on our highway toward a system of socialized medicine that will end the current thoughts surrounding health care: i.e. that our health is to be taken for granted by the profit motive.
- Jake Chipman** CT For all the people
- Elizabeth Brancato** CT This must happen!!
- Dori Smith** CT Universal single payer health care now. Democrats this means you.
- Peter Bowman** CT This should include coverage for integrative medicine, preventive health care, including acupuncture, chiropractic, and other helpful, holistic modalities including naturopathic, homeopathic and herbal health support
- Alfred & Naomi E. Shaiken** CT Great! Let's keep it going until everyone gets the message.
- Herbert Vaughan** CT Non profit health care. Defeat the corporate MCs
- John Battista, M.D.** CT Single payer is cheaper, better and just. Let's make it happen.
- Duarte Machado** CT Medical students are also calling for health care for all, and together we can make this a reality.
- Nancy Eckel** CT What is there about "YES" that our government doesn't understand?
- William Tyszka** CT Universal health care is way overdue in this country.
- Marilyn Tyszka** CT Universal Health Care is absolutely necessary, and a right of all Americans.
- Robert Dickinson** CT HMO's have shown to have a much higher overhead and be more costly then the standard Medicare. I believe that this would hold true for a national health plan.
- Philip Lachelier** CT We are the ONLY civilized nation without some form of universal healthcare. Keep this up, many of us will LEAVE THIS COUNTRY when we lose our healthcare - I'D RATHER PAY TAXES TO ANOTHER NATION THAN HAVE 40% OF MY TAX MONEY GO TO THE DEFENSE BUDGET.

CONNECTICUT continued

Janine Aggott CT I have MS and can't work. I have been denied disability although I have worked all my life. What happens if my husband loses his job and I can't afford the drugs I need to survive? This week alone I was told by more than one dr.'s office that I need to call the pharmacy to get a refill on a prescription, that takes the pharmacy to hire another person to make the call to the dr.'s office, then I have to call my PC to get a referral to see an in-network dr. Causing even more ppwk and more bureaucracy. I get samples, pens, sticky papers etc. when I visit the dr. Why can't I get health care without the stupid crap? Why can't the pharmaceutical companies put all their talk about recouping R&D back into lowering drug costs instead of pens, pads of paper, etc? Can't we take the trillions of dollars being spent on Iraq and other developing companies and spend that money on us?? Just one of my medications costs over \$1400. I have insurance through my husband's company and I pay \$25 a month. What do others do in my condition? They just progress into going blind, suffer paralysis until they can't walk and enter into a wheelchair, they can't control their bladders or bowels so maybe they can afford adult diapers rather than the meds that could control their symptoms. Please, please do all that you can do to correct the healthcare crisis in America.

Jean CT The lack of universal health insurance is increasingly infecting the country.

Dr. Brian Schwartz CT With over 40 million fellow citizens without medical insurance and retired seniors about to have their company benefits cut or eliminated this is a national emergency. This is not only a national scandal but a slow but certain form of "terrorism," the killing of civilians who should have a right to medical care as a basic of their being citizens of the wealthiest country in the history of mankind.

Kenneth Humphrey CT The vaunted claim is made that we have the best medical system in the world. If so, we also have just about the worst medical accessibility and medical delivery system amongst all developed nations.

Tim McKee CT I ask anyone to go to: www.voternader.org to see Ralph Naders' position on Single Payer Health Care. Only Nader has a clear and important stance on National Health Care

Ann Dupree CT Even if you have a health insurance policy, health care is an issue. Like me, many are hesitant to address what seem like minor health issues because of the potential cost. Early this month I went to the pharmacy with my father to pick up his prescription and noticed two elderly people who had difficulty paying for their drugs. One elderly gentleman had to leave his prescription at the counter because he did not have enough funds in his checking account to pay for his drugs. The other customer had a similar situation but charged her drugs and was flabbergasted at the expense. The health care issue is not going away and frankly, health-spending accounts are not the answer especially when people are paying \$400, and \$500 and more per month for medical benefits. As we age, we become more dependent on medication to live but the cost for many is un-affordable. My father is on anti-seizure medication and without his prescription plan the cost would be \$400 per month but with his plan he pays \$100 per month. In his situation, he is lucky because he is a former teacher and fortunately has a good plan. Not everyone is as lucky as he is. My question is, what do they do? This is America and innovation is our middle name. We have build rockets to the moon yet; we cannot provide affordable drugs and health care for the masses. With the right minds and a concerted effort I know a viable solution can be derived.

DELAWARE

Kirsten Opalach DE Everyone one needs to make there voices heard not once or twice but several times a year to there representatives! Don't give up, keep asking for what you want! Health Insurance for everyone!

Sharon Fisher DE The only people who benefit from the current system is the insurance industry. The providers suffer as well as consumers whether or not they have insurance. I know, I am a mental health provider and a sole business owner. I know the suffering on both ends. Please make this a priority and bring the United States up to par with the rest of the industrialized nations.

Marcia L. Gunning DE We need health care for all citizens.

Jacqueline Setlock RN DE Witness for a decade to the UN-HEALTHY, INHUMAN, treatment of humans by the profit driven HEALTHCARE industry.

DELAWARE continued

Ellen Lebowitz DE After decades of paying for our own catastrophic health insurance as self-employed, my husband began receiving good medical benefits last year. We had been paying monthly premiums with very large deductibles and so all our medical bills had to be paid out-of-pocket. I had a test once and prior to having it I asked the staff how much it was. They looked at me as if I was from another planet. I said that I would end up paying for it, not insurance. They looked in a very thick book and told me the cost was \$1,500.00. This, I realized, would be another bill I would pay off in monthly installments. We had just finished paying for our daughter's birth, which totaled fees from the Birth Center, and when things did not go as planned, a hospital stay with C-Section. And I always considered us fortunate because we had the means to cover ourselves and pay the bills. But it was difficult to save as a middle class family. Still, we were overall healthy and did what we had to do. We were the lucky ones. Since we have received benefits from my husband's employer, it's wild to see "what we saved" according to the insurance company. I had a blood test where the initial cost was nearly \$2,000.00 Insurance paid about \$450.00 and I only paid \$5.00. Who pays the rest? I'll tell you this-- two years ago, we would have been responsible for the entire amount. Now you tell me, how is it that an individual needs to pay \$2,000 for a blood test when the insurance companies will only pay a fraction of that? Our healthcare system is broken. People not as fortunate as myself are suffering under this system. We need a comprehensive national health care program. I call on Congress to pass HR 676. Health care is a human right. We need to do this.

Lea Morgan DE I am divorced and have a son, my son has insurance through his father, and I have none, I hardly get any money weekly because I was only married 21/2 years so not alimony, only child support of 125.00 weekly, and trying to support myself and pay car insurance groceries etc while going to school, only in america

Sharon Fisher DE The insurance industry is strangling all of us. They are the only winners in the current health care crisis. The providers and clients all suffer from the chaotic, byzantine system we are currently forced to live and die with. Please bring a single party payer system and some sanity and health to our country so we can live with the health standards of the rest of the industrialized world instead of shamefully trailing behind.

Elizabeth Lockman DE Right now, my employer covers my health care, but can not afford my daughter's... I am just making ends meet on a small salary but as a single mom household my pay overqualifies me to even get my daughter on the state sliding-scale health plan in which I would pay a reasonable low fee. Now I'll have to pay tons out of pocket just to get her a sub par, big-name catastrophic plan. Yes, I'd like to see a national healthcare plan!!!

FLORIDA

Joan Wiersma FL The country is slowly going to ruin. People are i l with nowhere to turn. We must evolve and get with it, as other countries have done. We must be more progressive in this respect We want universal healthcare for all and we want it NOW. I consider it a crime to purposely let people die due to lack of insurance and GOOD healthcare. People are leaving the U.S. and moving to other countries because they can afford healthcare there. Is this what we want? If we really ARE the greatest nation, then let's prove it by first taking care of our own.

Marcia De Fren FL "Boutique" healthcare may be discretionary, but basic healthcare is something to which everyone should be entitled.

Mary Lever FL I agree that if Congress had to confront this issue personally things would be different.

Audrey Maslin FL I am 78 years old and blessedly have the peace of mind and the occasional necessary medical attention that comes with eligibility for Medicare. I want my children and my neighbors and all my fellow Floridians and fellow Americans to have this peace of mind and necessary care also. It's the right thing to do, and the time is NOW. Our representatives in government have to know that we, the people, want this.

Shanda Farmer FL I teach disabled student computer class and I know a few of them do not have health insurance and I would like to see something done about that.

Beverly Davis FL My family has had continual problems with insurance providers -- the profit must be taken out of healthcare!

Larry Segal FL I have no health insurance and cannot get any to do a chronic illness. I cannot get it even without taking out that particular illness. We need a new system that gives insurance to all.

- Bonnie Copps** FL My daughter does not have health insurance and plans to attend college.
- Julie Sauers** FL This has been a long time coming. Everybody is ready for a change, as I know since I'm a student of public health and an employee who addresses people on COBRA and with group health plans.
- Samuel Kirschner** FL Let us not be the only industrialized nation in the world without a health plan for its citizens
- Samuel Kirschner** FL LET'S NOT BE THE ONLY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY IN THE WORLD WITHOUT A HEALTH PLAN FOR ITS PEOPLE
- Evelyn Zidek** FL Thanks! I'm certain we can make something happen. We're all at stake. I want to thank Cindy for sending it to me.
- Janet Seymour** FL We need health care based upon the patient's outcome instead of our current system that rations care based upon the patient's income.
- Yachira Martinez** FL I believe that everyone should be entitled to some sort of health insurance. Having preventative care is the first step to maintaining good health. Is more cost effective if diseases or symptoms, etc could be caught early so it can be treated accordingly and possibly prevent huge debts for both the insurance companies and patients.
- Mary Russell** FL affordable health care should not be a luxury
- Gavin Baker** FL Man's God-given dignity requires access to medical care. I am generally an economic libertarian, but the record has shown that the private sector is not the way to guarantee the fundamental right of universal access to health care.
- Candi Churchill** FL National Health Care could give women a measure of independence, since health insurance would no longer be tied to marriage or to an employer. We're 75% of the time the ones who stay out of paid work to care for children or ill loved ones. Women demand National HC NOW!
- Michael Michaels (M.D.)** FL After being 31 yrs in the trenches of medicine, I can describe our current healthcare dysfunctional system in two words: CRUEL, IMMORAL. Space limits elaboration.
- Linda Nolan** FL Healthcare should be available to every citizen of this country. I've been hearing about "plans" for far too long. What we need is REFORM to make healthcare available to EVERYONE!
- Agnes Valois** FL I have heard that people feel entitled to have health care, as if health care is an unreasonable expectation. But it is not unreasonable to expect good health and living wage and retirement. Production and wealth have become the only moral value of this country. People do not count anymore. But the world is for people. The things we do and the things we build are for people. People come first and they are entitled. Corporations and the wealthy claim are entitled to take what they can grab. They say we earned a bigger share of the world's resources. They are entitled to use the infrastructure of this country for their advantage. They are entitled to use our citizens as workers and consumers. They feel entitled to a huge portion of the world's resources. They feel entitled to refuse others life and health. I think we have to take the reigns of this government from the cooperate world and give them to the people again. Health care for everyone would be a good start. We talk about human treatment of the people in other countries. We talk about the atrocities that they have to endure, while we ignore the atrocities that our own citizens have to accept. Many people do not have the money they need for their medicine even if they can get to see a doctor. People are literally dying because they can not afford to live. I have a friend that I have hear that people feel entitled to have health care but they are not. Our government does not believe that our citizens are entitled to have a good quality of life. They do, however, feel that corporate and wealthy are entitled to take most of the resources in this world for themselves and are entitled to keep what they take. But the government maintains an infrastructure for these corporations through the taxes on its citizens. Why are corporations entitled and citizens are not. The world is for people, not money, or corporations. Please give all of our citizens AFFORDABLE AND COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE.
- Oregon Hunter** FL I hear heartbreaking stories everyday from patients who are unable to access the health care system due to inability to find insurance coverage. It is time to establish a universal health care system available to all Americans.
- Mike Deren Jr.** FL We need healthcare for all not just the rich and powerful!
- Elizabeth Rose** FL I lived and worked in Taiwan for several years. I enjoyed a high level of socialized medicine which even covered massage therapy! I hope that American can figure out a way to maintain healthy citizens.

FLORIDA continued

Samuel & Muriel Kirschner FL We are the only industrialized nation on earth that does not have universal health care for its people! FOR SHAME! Bring us into the 21st century now!

David Lee FL As a dual U.S / Canadian citizen, I have seen how health care works on both sides of the borders. In Canada, it's very straightforward and humane. In the US, it is a bureaucratic NIGHTMARE! HMOs will bend over backwards to deny me medical procedures. They look for any excuse to kick me off...The co-pays are HUGE under my HMO. Lack of health insurance...this puts a serious strain on personal relationships. 40 million uninsured people, in the richest country in the world?? FOR SHAME, AMERICA! Politicians and insurance companies, hang your head in shame! We need HR-676! Health care for EVERYBODY!

Andrew Leone FL Surely this country, that over its history has faced down many daunting challenges, that has the potential of delivering on its promise to its residents and humanity, surely it can find a way to ensure we view health care as a basic human right, not a way for corporations to reap exorbitant profits. Let's take this quantum leap into the new America. Let's demand it of our leaders as consumers, let's practice it as advocates and providers.

June Martin FL We have given a very loud message to our legislators with recent votes. They need to listen now! and do what we are demanding.

Arlene King FL We are the working poor, with no health insurance. We need to be heard now! Where is our American Dream?

Maxine Offenbach FL Affordable health care is so important in this great country and everyone deserves to have that coverage. Please show caring and concern for the people who live and work here. Thank you.

Jack Gunn FL I am a single landscape business owner and cannot afford healthcare.

Alfred Meier FL Please pass the US National Health Ins. Act (HR 676)!!

Maralyn Meier FL I sincerely hope that the Democrats and Republicans please get behind and PASS the US National Health Insurance Act (HR 676). Please for a healthy and united America!!!

Jamie Dees FL The time for hr676 is now!!!

James Holton FL This statement and its information should be seen by every presidential candidate. None has a healthcare plan as good as this one

Kenneth Wachtel FL The country needs a single payer health care system for all americans which will be much cheaper than the present system and will cover all citizens.

Nina Hunt FL Our country is useless and biased if it does not even take care of its own citizens.

Bob Fay FL I can't get insurance at a reasonable price because 8 years ago I was treated (and cured) of a dangerous disease. How many more like me are there out there? I am healthy now. Why does a previous medical problem impact my ability to be insured now?

John Guest FL As a world leader we should be ashamed that we don't have a national healthcare system. Let's focus on making our government of for and by the people!

Ted Schoelkopf FL I took a 17% pay cut since 9-11-2002 plus increased medical costs to our family. Congress still has the best plan in the nation why can't we all have the same plan?

Karolyn Aaron FL We desperately need this health care program to provide care for the many who do not have it.

Cynthia Wrinn FL National Health Care for Every one NOW!

Wanda Walker FL It is shameful that the richest country in the world doesn't provide health care for the citizens. How much Capitalism is too much? At some point the people have to take back their government.

Frederick Rippy FL I think it would be the best thing ever for the country. Frederick I. Rippy

- Anonymous** FL Although I was able to keep my health insurance, I am now age 63, cannot get coverage from anyone except my former insurance company due to pre-existing conditions, and even they have rated me up 100%. That means I pay \$1200 A MONTH for premiums. This is with a \$1000 deductible, plus other deductibles. I take 9 prescription meds, and have to pay 40% for most of them. I recently needed to use an ER twice due to serious breathing problems. I not only have had to pay a \$300 deductible for that twice, but am responsible for many other bills related to these visits. What should I have done? Die??? I am spending probably \$2000 A MONTH in medical costs. We will not have much in savings for our "real" senior years before I turn 65. So, those of us "fortunate enough to have coverage" are also hurting BIG time and are likely to be on the dole from the federal government as we reach very old age. Is this the punishment I am given for having worked as a single mother, but productive member of society paying taxes to those who are responsible for my predicament, but who have no idea what it would cost them for their own health insurance/expenses if they weren't on the government payrolls? Please feel free to quote my story, but contact me before using my name.
- Neville McJunkin** FL Healthcare should be available to everyone, just like is in every other industrialized nation in the world.
- Amy Nicoletti** FL We need this.
- James Holton** FL Let us join the rest of the developed world (and much of the developing world also).
- Daniel Halifko** FL the World Health Organization list the USA as 37th in healthcare provision
- Jill butler** FL thank you
- Miriam Lacher** FL For 17 years I have worked in a community hospital treating alcoholics, drug addicts and the mentally ill. Never has the situation been more dire in our incapacity to treat this population due to lack of funding. The implications are profound!
- Dr. Peter C. & Jean L. Wolff** FL Americans deserve the SAME health care plan they have provided you members of Congress ALL THESE YEARS!
- Cindy Cospier** FL If Cuba can provide health care for all as poor as they are - why can't we.
- Paul Beich** FL It's PAST time for this. Let's do it NOW!!
- Dorothee Custer, RN** FL What "value" is more important than the right of all to have adequate health care?
- Jean Wolff** FL If we can afford to waste money on frivolous wars in foreign lands, and if we can underwrite the rebuilding of a nation we have destroyed providing their health care, and if we can provide cadillac benefits to our representatives in Congress, then I say we have more than enough funds to provide single payer health care benefits to ALL our citizens. In fact, this is LONG PAST DUE!
- Chuck Farris** FL IT'S TIME TO STOP THE HEMORRHAGING OF CITIZEN'S SAVINGS TO GET BASIC MEDICAL CARE!!!
- John B. Koch** FL We are the only industrialized country in the world without universal single-payer health coverage. Let's get with it!
- Sharon Corl** FL We are supposed to be the richest country for our people. But we have worse health care than Europe or Germany. We have children who can be refused care for lack of health insurance or not good enough insurance. We have elderly who can not afford there medicines. And we have working men and women who can not get care unless they have cash in hand. And for a lot of families they can not come up with 5,000 in time to do any good. So if are Government can't set caps on insurance maybe it is time to let the Government set up a health care system that leaves no one untreated or without medicine.
- John O'Brien** FL I have worked the same job for over twenty years and have lost Insurance coverage due to rising cost my employer refused to pay and I could not afford individually.
- Filipe Costa** FL These measures and changes should of have taken place a long time ago, free health care is a must!!!
- Aprille Terzieff** FL HEALTH care for those who NEED it NOW!!

- Miglana Kulig** FL I am for it! Would be so much better for everyone.
- Jan Whitehouse** FL Just as we are accountable to God, nations shall be judged on how they treat their people - to feed, to care for, and to not oppress
- John Henderson** FL Free health care for all!
- Karen Schilling** FL Our healthcare system in a national disgrace. This is long overdue.
- Heidi Neill** FL Health Care-Medical, Dental, Vision & Mental for all and not just for the few!
- Lynn VanHoughton** **FL I think everyone should have insurance coverage. I also think there should be control over prescription prices. I think you should be able to receive the medication that works best for you even if it isn't on their list.**
- Willie Burton** FL We the people of the USA, the richest country in the world, DEMAND the best single payer, Universal Healthcare System in the world.
- Modinat Balogun** What do we want? HEALTHCARE... When do we want it? NOW
- Marlegrecy N'Ovec** FL Just after I turned 64 in 2002, I suffered a ruptured brain aneurysm and had to have brain surgery. I had no health ins. As a great blessing to me, I was living in Hong Kong at the time. The craniotomy was very successful. During my hospitalization and upon my return to the USA, I was reminded convincingly though many painful experiences and comments from many professionals and civilians that had I been in the USA at that crucial uninsured period of my life' the story would have been negatively different. The Chinese extended to me the best of medical attention including surgery by the chief of neurosurgery and partner; the best vegetarian diet, extensive PT & OT, attractive, safe hospital clothing, PASTORAL CARE and much more at a fraction of the cost of a follow-up visit in the USA. Because of this experience I have vowed to do all I can to help bring about comprehensive healthcare coverage's for the citizens of the most BLESSED nation in God's world. I have an incredible story to tell. I seek opportunities to form support groups for potential aneurysm victims and survivors and their families. I happily sign this petition to register my support for a viable health care system for everyone.
- Paul Rayner** FL From the day I was born until I arrived in America, a period spanning over 30 years, I received what I believe ranks among the world's finest healthcare - courtesy of Britain's N.F.S. In the almost 20 years I have lived in America it has been my good fortune to utilize the world's leading health delivery system funded by employer-provided insurance - but at what horrendous cost... Wake up America - if Britain can provide national healthcare since 1948, America can too. It's time to get past the rhetoric of "rationing" and talk about "prioritization". And take today's incomplete private insurance funding model, with its associated cost shifting to cover the uninsured, and replace with universal single payer for all.
- Margaret Rose Gladney** FL We need excellent health care for all, nothing less is acceptable.
- Stanley J Molinari** FL Provide universal healthcare coverage for everyone in the United States. It is absolutely outrageous that Americans are the only citizens of an industrialized country in the world without such coverage. I have friends living in Europe and Latin America who simply cannot understand why we do not have the coverage that they have and the coverage that they expect from their governments. Neither can I.
- Byron Tucker, M.D.** FL The dollars that are actually spent don't account for the untold time the current non-system causes to be wasted by physicians, their staff and family members in attempts to get people care
- Justin Dueno** we want healthcare
- Norm Decker** FL Healthcare is an oxymoron in America. The system from the ground up and especially the pharmaceutical industry must be controlled by a system that is universal. Included should be tax changes that do not allow the industry to effectively avoid taxes. I think that a system could be developed that would almost provide coverage for the entire nation by just eliminating these tax loopholes for multiple physician offices and pharmaceutical industry promotional practices.
- Stanley Molinari** FL Healthcare is, or should be, a right enjoyed by ALL of the people of this country. My friends in Europe and Latin America simply cannot understand why the United States does not have a universal healthcare system; and neither can I.
- Mike Deren Jr.** FL Please do not gut healthcare Mr. President!

- Mike Deren Jr.** FL Please help get this legislation passed the working class needs this.
- Alexander Rosales** FL SOCIAL JUSTICE SHALL PREVAIL!
- Nancy Moncada** FL Everybody deserves healthcare!!!!
- Mike Deren Jr.** FL Please support affordable healthcare for all Americans not just the rich and powerful!
- Christopher Wheldon** FL How can we call ourselves a just nation while we continue to ignore the millions of our fellow citizens who lack access to a basic human need? No more! Universal Health Care NOW!
- Cynthia A. Moore** FL No one should be unable to receive the services of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner. No one should be unable to afford their medication. No one's healthcare should be tied to the whim of their employer. No one should lose healthcare when they lose their job. (No, COBRA isn't an answer, since it's often prohibitively expensive, especially for family coverage.) Other countries have managed a national healthcare plan without major problems; why can't we? We are supposed to be the wealthiest country in the world, with the best standard of living. We are proud of this. But too many people fall through the cracks of the system, and it's a national disgrace. Something must be done to cover those without coverage, to ensure that everyone can receive treatment they need. This is a major issue for me, and will be a deciding factor for my vote in future elections.
- Agnes Valois** FL I am a senior citizen and over the years I have seen help for working people and poor people decrease. There are more jobs but many of them are part time with no benefits or jobs with such poor pay and low benefits that they are really not health solutions but rather another way of draining money from some of our most needy people. I see many people here that do not expect to have 30 days with electricity every month because it will be shut off at least part of the month. These people are not single working adults but rather families with children. Imagine being a child trying to do homework with by candle, sounds unbelievable but that is what is happening. The children can get health care in Florida if their families are very poor, but I know many adults that do not have the medicine they need as the money is diverted to food and necessities. I have a friend with thyroid disease who does not have the medicine she needs so she goes to work ill to get the money she needs for necessities for herself and her children. I know people that have coped but cannot afford the medicine that helps them to breathe, still they work. I see people with no teeth or glasses. Yes, they work and do not get assistance. I see them losing weight because there is not enough food for everyone in the family so these working adults take what is left or say they are not hungry. Most of these people have a basic health plan with a high co-pay and low prescription benefits. They have the plan, but can not afford to use it. I guess this keeps medical bills down. It makes people carefully consider their health care needs, and they seem to decide they do not need anything unless they are dying, and maybe then it will be too late. This is the sad reality of our times.
- KATHAY VAN DYNE** FL I need help with med. problem now - 59 years old - make barely over the guide line get help for anything
- Russ Neill, CWA Pres Local 3101** FLHealth Care for all nationwide!
- Caroline Nelson** FL As a healthcare worker for 20 years, I have seen the deterioration in healthcare in our country. The increase in healthcare insurance cost & decrease in insurance coverage and quality is outrageous & shameful.
- Rosa Gilbert** FL I totally agree with a national healthcare system. I am a nurse and it breaks my heart to see my patients and members of my family (that can't afford healthcare) suffer because they can't afford to go to the doctor when they are sick. It is disgraceful; we are a rich country but, can't take care of our own people by providing them affordable health care. I say spread the wealth we don't have a balance in our society. Everyone has equal right to become successful in life but, lets be realistic, "everyone" will not be so privileged. Only those privileged few will be able to become rich or richer due to incident of there of their birth. So, it is the least we could do is to help the less fortunate and provide a national healthcare system.
- Annie Zawel** FL Most people are ready for this concept but I'm afraid the funding you propose might hit stumbling blocks.

FLORIDA continued

- Howard Cohen** FL If Bush or Channey needed a organ transplant his Meds would all be covered by the US Gov. Why shouldn't I a person with a transplant not have the same piece of mind
- Kevin Crawford** FL Way overdue! Congress, are you listening??!
- Belinda Baker** FL If this generation that is now in power does not afford the basic human right of Health Care to all its citizens...shame on us. We are a disgrace to the rest of the world, we who profess to be so superior to all others!!!
- Leonard Kleps** FL If our government will stop warmongering, we will be able to concentrate our resources on health care.

GEORGIA

- Monique Dirke** GA I am in total congruence with your efforts in trying to get all United States' citizens to have universal health insurance!
- Ron Barnes** GA Healthcare should be a right, not an option.
- Emily Calhoun** GA Single payer health care would be cheaper, easier than the present system and would cover more people. Let's do it!
- Coleen Conway** GA I'm fortunate to have healthcare benefits through my employer; however, it's not fair to stick some employers with this cost. We need national healthcare now!
- Allicia Bowers** GA America should take care of its own.
- Jody Aaron** GA this time last year my health insurance was \$161 per month. In July it will increase to \$266 per month! I have had no major illness or medical cost. At this rate i will be forced to become indigent and allow the tax payers of my city and state to provide for my healthcare when i must visit emergency rooms instead of a primary care physician instead of controlling health insurance premiums so that i can afford to pay for my own healthcare. Great system we have here!
- Kimberly Stevenson** GA I am a hardworking single mother, I have been at my job for 10 years, I can't afford health ins (\$230 month). I can't afford to go to the doctor. I have a lump in my neck, but threes nothing I can do. We are in desperate need of national affordable health coverage.
- Susie Bolden** GA It is unacceptable that a country like ours has no health care for so many people. We need to take the profit out of health care now!
- Anita Stewart** GA This sounds like the best, and most humane, plan out there and we need it NOW!!
- Jim Mason** GA I think it is a national disgrace that we only provide health care in this country to those who can afford it. If a small country such as Costa Rica can afford national health care, why can't we?
- Robert Periano** GA It seems we are being used for profit by the insurance industry and Congress must protect us from the abuse. Canadian or Scandinavian system sounds good as I cannot afford insurance being retired.
- Marguerite Rece** GA I live close to single payer now and it works for me- I am 72, on Medicare A&B only. I can afford the copays. I would have to work full time to afford the insurance which might or might not cover my care, so I prefer to work full time as a volunteer to get this kind of healthcare for everyone in this country. My commitment is to take as good care of myself as I possibly can, which means seeing that all those around me are able to do the same. We can afford this easily. We cannot afford to ignore the health of any in our population, our healthcare statistics bear this out. Hospitals and clinics are overburdened with those who desperately come for help too late, and leave families with grieving survivors and /or huge financial burdens afterwards. And our streets are filled with those who are dying and have no resources left to feed, clothe or house themselves. What have we become? This doesn't sound like "the Land of the Free, and the Home of the Brave" to me. Nor does it sound like it offers "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness to All." Wake up. U.S. of North America. We do have a choice. Stop the Insanity of our present unhealthy, unhealthcare system. Give us single payer, Medicare for All.

GEORGIA

- Eleanor Soler** GA This bill will pay for itself. It's time we joined the rest of the first-world countries in providing healthcare for all our citizens.
- James Corley** GA I don't understand why everyone should not have Medicare. Why is it dependant on whether one is employed to have health insurance? Please pass this legislation.
- Henry Kahn** GA I have practiced general internal medicine in Atlanta's inner city for 33 years. More than anything else, we need a health care financing system that's UNIVERSAL and SINGLE-PAYER.
- Jack Love** GA Congress, stop talking and do something, endorse and support HR676. The American people elected you to represent them. We need National Health Care NOW!!
- Bruce Wheeler** GA I lost health coverage with a job change. It is difficult and very expensive getting coverage. So far I am uninsured and I need health coverage.
- James T. Robinson** GA Our current healthcare is nothing but a bunch our get rich drug corporations, insurance clowns, and flunky politicians that all of which worship that all mighty dollar\$\$\$.It's time to say no to our current system.
- Adele Kushner** GA Health care is a basic need, and a human right.
- Gerald and Louise Rose Blume** GA Every other civilized industrial nation has universal health care coverage. So should we.
- Nathaniel Mansperger** GA Medical technology is going in a direction where people may be monitored once a week without having to see a doctor. In order for this system to work at its potential, we need to have coverage from birth to death. That way complete medical histories shows the progress and/or digress of your conditions.
- Nathaniel Mansperger** GA Medical technology is going in a direction where people may be monitored once a week without having to see a doctor. In order for this system to work at its potential, we need to have coverage from birth to death. That way complete medical histories shows the progress and/or digress of your conditions.
- C.A. Crawford** GA America needs HR676!
- Susie Hicks** GA I think this would be great. I have been without insurance for about four years now. Two years ago I re-injured my back, from former car wreck, and I had no insurance. I paid for the treatments I did receive out of my own money, which didn't go far at all. I lost my job because I couldn't do it with back ir jury, only temp job at time, so now I no longer have a job, I can't do just any job, I can't see a doctor for treatment because I have no income or insurance, so basically, I am just screwed at every turn.
- Stephen Spann** GA I have type 1 diabetes, and will be losing my health insurance in 3 months. My work does not provide insurance, so I am scrambling to figure out what to do.
- Anne Kenan** GA It hurts to pay so much for health insurance, for something you hope not to use. And it hurts even more not to have it, in case you need it!
- Ron Barnes** GA Stop spending money to destroy lives and use it to save lives. Let's become the caring nation we once were, instead of a nation of haves and have nots.
- Michael Fox** GA It's about time
- Jennifer Mathews** GA We need national health for every American.
- Adele Kushner** GA We all need a complete national health care system - if not now, when?
- Bobbie Mozingo** GA I am a mother of three beautiful children and I have to constantly fight to keep medical coverage. I am what some call "economically challenged" and a full time college student at 23 years old. My husband works a 40+ hour job and travels frequently. National Healthcare has been proven to work so what's the hold up?
- David Jekot** GA Today is too late for this legislation. We must do this yesterday.

GEORGIA Continued

Roxanne Jekot

GA As a current victim of our health care system, I know we must end this nightmare.

Faye Cline

GA This would be good if the government doesn't try to control the care delivered by only using the cheapest products available instead of the "best treatment products" available to people

Doyle Hearell

GA Health care for all is a basic right.

Ron Barnes

GA Stop spending money to destroy lives and use it to save lives. Let's become the caring nation we once were, instead of a nation of haves and have nots.

Eva Grammer

GA I have been separated from my husband for almost 2 years. When we separated and he went to jail (he is now a convicted felon), I had to move in with my parents, who live in Georgia. I had TennCare, the low-income program in Tennessee for my health insurance. I gave TennCare a false address and continued to get my TennCare illegally for almost a year. I am not proud of it. But since I could get no health insurance in Georgia (Peach Care or Medicaid) and I have several health conditions (asthma, diabetes), I felt like I had no choice. I did finally admit to TennCare that I did not live in Tennessee any more and they are not going to force me to pay restitution, thank God, but now I have no health care and don't see me having any for a long time. I should not have to live in constant fear of every sniffle or fever. I should have health care.

HAWAII

Sandra Gresham

HI Helping people get healthy and stay that way should not damage them financially by excessive profits for providers. Inexpensive prevention is a priority!

Kate Wessling

as a physician who follows this issue, I am certain here is no other solution as elegant, as cost effective, as fair as the single payer universal healthcare model. All other solutions will be piece meal and wasteful of time and money. It is dishonest to think a market driven model will face the issues needed to curb costs and provide good quality needed services and prevention.

Kathleen Cass

HI Spend our money on the people that need it and deserve it! NOT IRAQ

Gina Ship

it's truly shameful!

HI Something needs to be done about this ASAP! The US is so far behind other industrialized nations



By Barbara Smaller

- Doris Howard** **IA** Urgent request to congress - take action now.
- Brent Curtis** **IA** It's about time!!
- Joseph Posada** **IA** No American should have to worry about getting adequate health care or if they will have enough money when they retire! Especially when our government is squandering billions of our tax dollars on senseless military conquests in Iraq, Afghanistan and a "war on terror" that doesn't exist!
- Jacob Schaefer** **IA** **I am a 22 year leukemia survivor. I have been active in the cancer community for years, and know there are thousands of Americans who are dying just because they do not have access to treatments that already exist! I also have a brother who received a liver transplant. One of the first questions the hospital asked us before he was out on the transplant list was do you have insurance. How is one life more valuable than the other because one is insured and the other isn't? Our country is one of the greatest in the world. It is only appropriate for our citizens to have the ability to lead full and healthy lives.**
- Pamela Farghaly** **IA** I am in favor of establishing a national healthcare system.
- Gregory J. Kreitner, Esq.** **IA** In the land where "all men are created equal" it does not seem just that the men and women we elect to represent our needs have comprehensive healthcare paid for by our tax dollars while the people who elect them and fund their health care system are cast to the wind. HR-676 would bring fiscal sanity and equity to this nations health care system. **MA**ke it happen NOW! Your job in Washington will depend on it!
- Peter Metcalf** **IA** I am a Pediatrician. I recently had to hospitalize a sick child for urgent care that could not be given at home. The mother was without health insurance and the child was not covered by Medicaid, hence the mother was responsible for the full cost of the hospitalization. How long are we going to tolerate a situation where we effectively fine parents, often with limited financial resources, vast sums of money for the "crime" of having a sick child?
- Joseph Posada** **IA** Americans need Single Payer Health Care. Individuals and companies can't afford health insurance premiums that keep rising at the rates they have the last several years. People and their welfare are more important than profits! I agree with Paul Lachelier - preventative care must be given a much higher priority than it has in the past.
- David Fodge** **IA** It's the right thing to do and it's long overdue.
- Nathan Hetzel** **IA** The Democrats need to make this bill a real fight. As I see it, the Democrats are the only party putting forward a plan to deal with health care. If it's possible, shut down the government over this issue and ensure that President Bush signs it.
- Steven Matter** **IA** Please lets just do this. Our beloved country would be better with universal health care
- Patience Niemoth-Coleman** **IA** I believe we need to work to get everyone insured. It can be a great hardship to not have insurance but also not to be able to afford being insured.
- Joe Posada** **IA** Too many Americans have insufficient or no coverage and many more will see employer provided benefits reduced in the coming years as premiums continue to rise.
- Debra Selby** **IA** This is really needed and has been needed for along time. It is just terrible the way the hospitals treat people who don't have heath insurance and Drs. Offices if you don't pay your bill they won't see you again and I'm sure that is why so many people doesn't get proper health care. There are so many people out there that can't afford it they really need the help.
- PATT Lynch** **IA** Everyone deserves health care in America. There has to be a better way & this sounds like a good plan.
- Jesse Wozniak** **IA** **It's the only humane and reasonable thing to do!**

IDAHO

Debra J Douglas ID A system that accepts a higher cost of 50% for pharmaceuticals needs to be changed. ...for the PEOPLE!

J. Bradley Sears ID I am one of those uninsured Americans, and I couldn't afford the deductible if I did have it.

Raymond Stovall ID It's a start that is needed NOW!

Jean Lunsford ID We are long over due for decent affordable health care. The health insurances are ripping us off. The cost keep going up and up with no end in sight.

Deborah Hedden-Nicely ID Let's help people to keep their dignity at a time when they need it most - when they're very ill. This plan will benefit everyone. How could we not support it.

Jeannie Ballanti ID My son is one of the 45 million and I worry about him every day. He works part-time as a researcher and he's 23, so he no longer qualifies for my insurance. It's really scary...

Gretchen Cotrell ID We need health care for everyone NOW. We must not allow the continued humiliation and threat of illness and death to the 43+ million people who have no health insurance.

Calvin Leman ID Please consider this carefully. If you find problems with it, please tell me.

Jeanette Ross ID We know what we need, we know what it will cost, we know we can afford it. We only lack courage.

Deanah Messenger ID I think everyone should have the quality of health care that our elected officials avail themselves of and at the same cost they pay out of pocket.

James Holden ID Our son was born with a heart condition. Now, 45 years of age he is still uninsurable. Even as he is willing to pay a very high premium for health insurance, no company will accept him. It is time for a single payer plan, everyone in, nobody out.

Carol Buente ID I have been on the fence about this health care for everyone but people need to see a doctor, be admitted to a hospital or take medication to stay healthy. I want a good, safe coverage, not to be put on a waiting list as has happened in Canada. Thank you.

Robert Gowan Health care in this country is simple DON'T GET SICK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Kyle Hopkins ID Please do the right thing and pass hr676!!

Richard Peugh ID I believe every one should have as good a health plan as our representatives in Washington.

ILLINOIS

Dr. Daniel and Mrs. Sharon Hunter-Smith IL It is a crime that a nation as wealthy as ours does not provide universal health care for all its citizens. We can find billions and billions of dollars to fight illegal and destructive wars, but we can't find the money to fund health care? Our priorities as a nation are wrong.

Constance Berg IL Everyone in America deserves to have health care! The richest of all nations can afford it.

Michael Goldsbie I'm actually Canadian, and I love our government healthcare system. I've ALWAYS thought that our neighbours to the south--and in fact every country in the world--should have a national healthcare system that we have. I love the fact that whenever we need necessary surgery or anything like that, we can get the treatment free of charge. Of course, we have higher taxes to pay for it, but it's definitely worth it.

Harold Gullett IL This is something very much needed.

G. Hebert IL We are dying because we cannot afford health care. Senators and Representatives, the president and his cabinet have FREE HEALTH CARE....why can't we?

ILLINOIS Continued

- Michael Brennan** IL How can we press Senator Kerry to sign on?
- Lenny Lambkin** IL excellent
- Lance Cohn** IL Take health care off the bargaining table, support the Conyers bill.
- Timothy Kaczocha** IL This is a crisis. The private sector has been unable or unwilling to solve this public health issue. It's time for a drastic change. HR 676 will get the legislative ball rolling to finally do something substantive and fair to all.
- Beatrice Lumpkin** IL A large majority wants "Health Care for All." Let's unite around HR 676.
- Ronald Lawless** IL This is a great opportunity to move forward an important issue to the forefront in the minds of the American people. Let's make health care our #1 priority.
- Mark Stella** IL My wife and myself lived in Norway for some time, a country which provides national healthcare for ALL it's citizens, and IT WORKS!! The U.S. needs a nationalized healthcare system in place NOW! All members of the Federal Gov. have a great healthcare system for themselves, PLUS the ones at the top are all millionaires so why should they even care!!? Unfortunately, I'm sure I'll never live long enough to see a national healthcare system put in place in this country.
- David Myerscough** IL the rising cost of health care and health care insurance has forced us into a situation where we have no other choice but to come up with a national plan.
- Phyllis Arist** IL Health care is a human right, not a commodity. It is long overdue for the US to join the rest of the industrialized world & provide single-payer health care to all residents.7g
- Alfred Klinger** IL We are considered one of the worst countries of the so called industrial countries when it comes to taking care of the medical needs of people in this country. The costs are outrageous. One of the largest causes of bankruptcy is the costs of medical care.
- Ron Chew** IL Insurance companies and the Blues need to be out of the picture so that most of every dollar goes for health care not towards determining who to insure or the validity of claims. The administration of the present insurance system is killing many of us.
- Shel Silver** IL Single-Payer Medical Care would protect the citizenry; our current wars and tax giveaways endanger us. Give us Health, not death for our taxes.
- Doris Heroff** IL With almost half the nation without adequate health care, and most of those our young people, how can we delay longer?
- William Ridenour** IL **My father was born in poverty on a small Ozark farm. He died in poverty too, not because of his own laziness or waste or mismanagement. He had been a successful commercial artist with 20 employees. No, he died in poverty because he was a hard worker and always paid his bills and died trying to pay the astronomical bills from the cancer that killed my mother. My father fought in WWII. He believed in this country and this country let him down. It's too late for my father. It's too late for too many. It's way past time for healthcare reform. It's time for single payer healthcare.**
- Cyril Robinson** IL I have already sent in my comments on my experiences living in single-payer health care systems in England and France.
- Sheila Burris** IL It seems unconscionable to me that I have excellent health care while at least 45 million have no health care, so have many more health problems. AS a Christian, I want for others what I have for my self. The insurance companies and the pharmaceutical companies are making millions while millions are suffering with poor health. Let us have universal health care--and soon.
- Sheila Burris** IL It seems unconscionable to me that many of us have excellent health care while 45 million others have no care. As a Christian, this is unacceptable, especially so as the cost of health care in the U.S. is at least two times that of other developed nations. We must have a universal health care system--and soon.

ILLINOIS Continued

- Mandy Ryan** IL Please us Americans instead of the greedy insurance companies!!
- Benjamin Graham IL** I currently live with a treatable disability because I can't afford surgery & physical therapy. One ER visit last year resulted in 5 different billing agencies, endless insurance hassles, and thousands of dollars of subsequent medical debt. The American health care system is an abysmal failure, and it is time for a change.
- Richard Syska** IL Just do it!
- Daniel Dale** IL Health Care is a Human Right
- Michael Batinski** IL This is about time! I am enthusiastically in support of such a proposal that would move the discussion on this important matter away from the tangled mess we have now. G
- Krista Johnson** IL The system is broken so let's fix it!
- Rene Heybach** IL It's urgent that we make progress on fixing our broken health care system. We have delayed too long.
- Sharon Todd** IL It's about time for single-payer health care for all Americans
- Openly Gay Christian Singer Thomas Williams IL** This is not about the issues that divide us but the issues that bring us together. Equal health care.
- Jose Tirado** I now live in a country (Iceland) which, which like so many sane countries around the world, has a single-payer system. Its time long passed that we Americans get on board!
- Robert Gilles** IL underemployed, lacking insurance for years... we need national health care.
- Jim Hegland** IL seems to me once again the democrats are way ahead of the republicans on the healthcare issue, remember HILLARY about 12 years ago; she got shot down then, not this time!!
- Jo Ann Kreider** IL There are many other countries that provide health care for each of their citizens. It's time for the U.S. to catch up!
- Jim Olszowka** IL Why should citizens of this country have no health care while citizens of third world countries have guaranteed health care? I lost my job after working many years and therefore lost my health care insurance coverage. I could not buy insurance. My family and I should have been given health care coverage just as members of Congress are given health care coverage when they lose their job.
- Day Waterman** IL Politicians wonder why Americans are gloomy about the economy....pass this bill and I guarantee spirits will improve.
- Christa McDonald** IL If our elected officials truly care about the American People, they will see to it that all Americans can have the same kind of healthcare coverage that they and their family members enjoy!
- Jennifer Estes** IL 37th is shameful!
- Sean OBrien** IL There are many of us required to pay into Medicare in the form of taxes, yet either receive no benefits or insufficient benefits. Why should insurance companies remain rich for doing absolutely nothing for the people who depend on them most? Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are not pledges that have been fulfilled overnight, but rather fought for over the course of many years. The pursuit of a national healthcare plan will be no different. And, as in any struggle to improve our quality of life, the longer we delay, the longer we shall suffer by our own hand, for a hand not raised for us is a hand raised against us.
- Edie Feiste** IL Health care for all citizens should be a right and not a privilege. Because it can be a matter of life or death, we should all have equal access to the best health care possible.
- Will Ridenour** IL War loses a great deal of romance after a soldier has seen his first battle. --John Singleton Mosby, confederate colonel in the American Civil War (1833-1916)

Toni Hamilton IL This is something we all need. There are too many people suffering without healthcare.

Monroe & Fran Sullivan IL H.R. 676 is about 60 years overdue. Even large U.S. employers now favor it to make us competitive with other nations. All Americans should get behind this cause.

Gabrielle Cavalier IL **Health care costs have RUINED us, even before we could get a start in life. We have struggled since we were married 8 years ago with outrageously high health care and prescription costs. My husband is a severe asthmatic with a seriously compromised immune system who has spent the better part of these years in and out of the ICU. Hospital and medical bills piled up, even though we had insurance coverage despite the many layoffs (COBRA) from our corporate white collar jobs in the pharmaceutical industry. Sad as the irony is, in addition, our copays have averaged \$500 to \$600 a month, mostly for prescriptions. Our families can't understand how young, college-educated professionals could have ended up in such a financial mess, but here we both sit at 42, and unemployed again due to recent layoffs, with again no health insurance (COBRA has just cancelled us.) Fortunately, 2 years ago the FDA approved a drug that gave my husband back a relatively "normal" life, though the cost for the shots is \$7000.00 per month (Yes, that is 7 grand.) We can't purchase insurance on our own because my husband has a pre-existing and expensive condition and he can't be approved. We feel that we are being robbed of our right to live a prosperous, secure and healthy life. Changes can't happen soon enough for us, literally.**

Dr. Jean E. Jost IL I have experienced the national socialist medical system in Canada which is superb. Let's study their program! Yes, we are the only industrialized nation so backward as to lack a universal health care system for all. European coverage for their citizens puts us to shame. We must care for everyone who needs assistance and pay for it through graded taxation--those who earn more must pay more. With an aging population to care for, our plan must cover all illnesses: mental illness, Alzheimer's and related problems, eye care, deafness, surgery, prescriptions, cancer, diabetes, and other medical treatments, hospital expenses, home care for the elderly who need assisted living, and all other maladies. Let's limit physician salaries to half a million per year, which should adequately recompense any health care provider, and discourage frauds who overcharge. It is time to cure the poorest of our society who have had the most difficulty surviving, and the hardworking who wish to remain so.

Brian Burkhardt IL I have kidney stones. It'd be much easier to maintain calm if I wasn't in pain.

Ashley Weatherford IL I'm tired of seeing people's lives ruined because they have no options, when a medical emergency happens. This should not be happening in the richest country in the world!

Sandra Jones-Gonzalez IL People are dying unnecessarily due to lack of access to primary care services. Lack of access is experienced by the young who cannot afford co-payments/deductibles, the uneducated, the disabled and the mentally ill, the current system is a burden on small businesses due to the high premium costs offered them, many small businesses forgo coverage all together, if you live in the rural areas; your access is even further limited due to physician maldistribution. The system is so fragmented there are many players with their own interests that involves turning a profit and answering to their shareholders: they are providers, 3rd party payers, pissed off employers and healthcare consumers who are told where to go for care usually outside their own communities, what meds to take and are denied experimental clinical trials in cases of cancer because they don't have the right healthplan that offers this. Also keep in mind the healthplan is purchased by their employer, so the healthcare consumer never had a say so in the first place. The employers are the ones who finance the system voluntarily and they select which plan will give them a favorable bottom line on their P&L statements. Employers are not mandated to provide coverage. Bottom line...the current capitalistic market system cannot provide universal healthcare...the country needs to look at a social justice designed market system for all of us. We are still the unhealthiest nation around.

Irene Wodarczyk IL **This is such an urgent issue, we cannot keep on ignoring it. Many U.S. citizens are in desperate medical need without any coverage or with insufficient coverage, and we need to take care of our citizens. Please make this a priority in keeping our nation healthy and strong. Thank you.**

Becky Spoon IL www.hifaa.us is a new 527 working for HR626 also; their petition and this one might want to combine names?

ILLINOIS Continued

- Jill Gray** IL When I got my current job I found that it would be approximately 50% of my income to have my children insured on my work health care. That is 200% of my current rent. I ended up getting some coverage for them off of the internet, sure hope they never need it!
- Eve Noonan** IL This is so very important
- Suzanne Lagomarcino** IL To assure our future of quality healthcare, we must have Medicare for All under a single payer form!
- Peggy Valdés** IL I now know what the phrase "land of plenty" is referring to....we pay plenty for healthcare. I recently had to shop for individual healthcare insurance for my family and it was a rude awakening. Working folks need HR 646.
- Jim Olszowka** IL Not having health insurance (and some of my children not having health insurance) is making me sick.
- Jared Lash** IL In order to ensure life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, one cannot afford to be a slave to any company because one cannot afford healthcare costs without one's employer.
- DION P FLEMING** IL Less bombs and bayonets. More medicine and mental health services for all Americans.
- Edie Feiste** IL We can no longer ignore the growing numbers of our citizens who do not have adequate healthcare...and the continually rising costs of the healthcare available in our country. We need a system that leaves no one out...and we need it now!
- Tracy Kurowski** IL I am one of the millions who work professionally as a teacher at the city colleges and I have no health insurance. I was recently diagnosed at the age of 30 with a heart condition. Getting health insurance at this point is an absolute necessity.
- Daniel Stafford** IL This very much needs to be done. Its long past overdue and the people of this country need this. Please support this bill.
- Dean Mindock** IL Cutting the Pentagon's enormously bloated budget by 15% would free up all the money needed to give us all world class healthcare, education, and a robust infrastructure.
- Richard Gaydos** IL We should have had a single health plan for this country a long time ago. I blame the politicians for not organizing a single health plan in the United States. Too much messing around with the peoples money, just like they did with all the Social Security money that people have put their money into. The government should get together no matter if you are Democrats or Republicans and bust there butts come up with a solution very soon before there is anarchy in the streets about a national health plan.
- Robert Johnson** IL Long overdue. Let's have a VA type medical system for all Americans through the Medicare program.

INDIANA

- Jack Brady** IN I am on disability because of chronic nerve pain. Four years ago my Union Health insurance plan with the Indiana Laborers Welfare fund cost less than \$1,000 per year. Now it cost me over \$7,000 per year for a 75/25% plan. The fund also had to end my disability pension and I was forced to take a early retirement pension at a loss of about \$3,000 per year for the rest of my life. The out of pocket medical expenses for my wife and I were over \$12,000 the last two years. My wife has been taking early withdrawals from her retirement IRA to help pay for our medical expenses. She will have little if anything left when she will turn 65 in five years. We need a national health care plan now!
- JUSTIN SMITH** IN Congress needs to pass Ethics Reform that prohibits the acceptance of any monies from Corporations for campaign contributions. That would be a beginning for Medical Care for all. Medicare should be expanded to cover all American Residents that are citizens.

INDIANA Continued

- Edwina Gregory** IN If our senators and representatives were not so beholdng to "The Lobbyists" these benefits would already be available to the hard-working American citizens.
- Karen Treat** IN My dad is a retired uaw worker and he is getting less and less health care every year. He thought when he retired that he'd be safe. Guess not!
- Charles Swickard** IN I worked at Bethlehem Steel, Burns Harbor for 25 years and retired. Upon hiring I was told as a salaried person, I would get a paid life insurance, health care upon retirement. Bethlehem went bankrupt and I got nothing. The board of directors got their big umbrella pensions and other perks. The workers got nothing, Where is there justice in that?
- Mike Thomason** IN I am getting close to an early retirement age that I have been working and saving for all my life. Now it looks as if I can't do it because of the skyrocketing costs of health insurance. I would have to pay approximately \$7K per year for health insurance alone, and that is today. What happens 10 or 20 years from now? We must have a national health insurance plan that allows all americans affordable healthcare. Another aspect to this debate I haven't seen much coverage on is when you are self insured and you get sick, the insurance company cancels you. Then try to get insurance. You will no longer be able to afford it. Thanks for listening. Mike
- Patricia Doan** IN Please allow access to healthcare for all Americans.
- Wynelle Greene Smelser** IN Universal health care provision is a moral imperative. In addition, NHI is the only fiscally responsible solution to impending health care crisis.
- Wynelle Greene Smelser** IN Universal health care provision is a moral imperative. In addition, NHI is the only fiscally responsible solution to impending health care crisis.
- Rita Gaither-Gant** IN The health of the least of these our citizens should be of concern to those who represent them in Congress. Support for HR676 will demonstrate Congress does care about all of the citizens of The United States especially those who depend upon them for quality health care through a decent national health care plan. God's Shalom to each of you.
- Jessica Jenkins** IN I'm a full time college student no longer eligible under my parents' health insurance. What am I suppose to do now? National Healthcare would put me and millions of uninsured at sleep at night to know that we can see a doctor when we need to.
- Leslie Young** IN We are the only industrial nation that doesn't have national health care for all. Let's get this done
- George Trautvetter** IN Take care of our wounded from the wars now in progress and make health care available for our nation people!
- Stephanie Miller** IN If we had the comprehensive (if a bit slow) health care such as England's, I would not be sitting here at home, not working, on disability and soc sec. I have a Master's Degree and through unbelievable bad luck became disabled with lupus before getting my private practice begun (psychotherapy). Without insurance I could not find good health care and thus, am now on oxygen and only have 30% lung capacity! National health insurance can help guarantee no one will have to be "wasted" like this again.
- William Kehoe** IN It's ridiculous. that our government should say "free Health care for all Iraqis at our expense. and let our own die because it costs too much. Leave no one behind!
- Jerry Lyman** IN Let your conscience be your guide!
- Claire Alexander** IN I would like to see US caught up to the rest of the civilized world on this issue.
- Ken Appelhans** IN Government OF, BY, and FOR the PEOPLE. Let's make it happen.
- Gloria Robinson** IN If those that are making the unjust, insensitive laws on healthcare costs can only walk a mile in the shoes of all that are affected, they would be the first to speak out because their decisions have now become a personal issue. God forbid their health benefits and livelihood be dictated by those of little concern. WE NEED CONSIDERATION FOR BETTER HEALTHCARE FOR ALL NOT JUST SOME.

INDIANA Continued

- Adriane Jagger, RN** IN This is long overdue.
- Terri Clayton** IN We need affordable health care for ALL americans.
- Valiant Goodrich** IN When you have almost died as a result of not getting medical attention. It causes you to stop and think. What if that was my baby?
- Thomas Zeta** IN Our country is blessed with enough bounty to share it with all.
- Jon Morgan** IN please get this legislation passed asap
- Lori Chandler** IN Wouldn't it be wonderful to take back the decision of our own health from the big insurance companies. Only your doctor and you should be the deciding factor in your health care, not what is covered and what is not.
- Lori Chandler** IN Wouldn't it be wonderful to take back the decision of our own health from the big insurance companies. Only your doctor and you should be the deciding factor in your health care, not what is covered and what is not.
- Charlie Averill** is right on! IN Let's do the right thing. Let's help the people for a change. The word "NOW" in "Healthcare-NOW"
- Marta Thomason** IN as a self employed livestock producer (Angus beef and sport horses) I have no health insurance. I have not seen a Dr or Dentist in many years. So far I have been healthy and lucky but at 51 I know I will need to be seen by a Dr and should be having preventive screenings. I can not pay for them or private insurance. Please pass this bill!!
- Amy Miller** IN The number of people who have no health coverage is shameful. In a country so rich we have a moral duty to ensure that every person in this country has access to quality medical care.
- Gregory Fawcett** employers as well. IN An idea whose time has come. This would bring freedom. And freedom from oppressive
- Amy Miller** IN The number of people who have no health coverage is shameful. In a country so rich we have a moral duty to ensure that every person in this country has access to quality medical care.
- Jack Brady** IN This bill will greatly reduce the cost of health insurance. It will end the excessive profiteering of insurance companies.
- Frank Hoepfner** IN The sooner we get something in place, the sooner it gets better. Remember, it's a world economy for except for the pharmaceutical giants and insurance companies.
- Leslie Young** IN We are the only industrialize nation in the world that doesn't have health care for all. Our politicians took real good care of themselves.
- Chuck Whelan** IN I think we desperately need a program similar to Canada's! Until I started getting my SSD checks I was getting \$1700 a month for my pension. I now I get \$1200 a month and my Health Care Insurance is now \$1028 a month! Try living on that. I only wish that these money hungry big shots that got \$2 mill. Enjoys every penny they got!
- Gail P. Franko** IN We as a Nation have always taken care of everyone else. Isn't it about time to take care of our own first??? A National Health Care plan would be the first step in the right direction.
- Earl Clay** IN We're hell-bent to become one global economy. So it seems to me that we should be covered healthcare-wise also.
- David & Carolyn Becker** IN This country needs to finally do something for all the people that have made this country what is it today. Everyone needs healthcare and it's a shame innocent people have to die because they can't get the care they need without insurance.
- Billy Youngwolf Floyd** IN Raising healthcare costs cripple working class Americans who have a choice of putting food on the table or taking care of sick family members. This is a wrong that needs corrected

INDIANA Continued

Nancy & Steve Canfield IN I worked for Bethlehem Steel Corporation for 33 years. After retiring I now find myself without my healthcare insurance coverage due to the company going bankrupt. Sad part is the laws of this country allow CEO carpet baggers to walk in and buy the company and assets and not have to care for the employees who created the business for them to buy. Between my monthly retirement check of \$1300 from the PBGC and social security being \$1300 per month. The healthcare premium is around \$5000 annually or takes 16% of my income and will continue to increase with age (age 62 the premium would be approximately \$10,000 annually) to a point I will not be able to afford it. It is long overdue for an affordable national healthcare insurance be provided to all people of this country. It is unreasonable to set here and worry that one day the things my wife and myself worked for could be lost due to the lack of healthcare coverage. Worse is to watch one of us die from the lack of proper medical care due to being unable to pay the hospital and doctor fees. I do have TAA coverage from the HCTC. But it has limitations too. One is at age 65 it stops for me and my spouse who would be age 62. try and get coverage on a person at that age. The TAA coverage does not provide coverage for name brand prescriptions and will only cover generic prescriptions up to \$90 per month. There is no dental or eye care coverage provided either in the TAA insurance. Please, don't think we are complaining over the availability of the TAA coverage. Just why did it get so many restrictions of it starting at age 55, ending at age 65, etc. Pray to God the elected leadership of this country does the right thing in passing this bill for national healthcare insurance coverage for all the citizens of this great country.

Lillian Noecker IN I'm paying \$94.73 for a medicare supplement each month - I could use that money for FOOD!

Laura Pinhey IN Families are making important decisions about jobs and childcare based alone on the need for health insurance, and many are going bankrupt when they do get sick. Businesses, especially small ones, are struggling to provide health plans for their employees. And we are allowing insurance companies and the pharmaceutical industry to run the show. We should be ashamed of ourselves for letting this continue for so long. A single-payer system can't be any more problematic or expensive than what we have. It's only right that we make this change, now.

Jason Jones IN Equal access to healthcare is a right for all, not a privilege of the upper class.

Jackie Rodman IN If the Senators and Congressmen Had to survive on the same benefits that we do this bill hr 676 would fly to approval.

Claire Alexander IN It is time that citizens' needs come before insurance company's profits. I would like to see you support HR 676 for a single payer national health care program that will benefit all.

Nina Klooster IN Too often we ask for less because we believe that we cannot get what we really want. We need health care coverage for everyone. It is a human right!

Schulbaum IN I have great hopes that our country will make the necessary changes and decisions to provide adequate health care for all. It seems obvious to many, but maybe not to all that the health care system we have functions embarrassingly in favor of the insurance companies themselves rather than the physicians who help people and the people who need help. It is unclear to me why a country so concerned about its image would continue to allow such ridiculous inequity and greed to rule our system of providing treatment. It's time to start standing up for what we need and want instead of letting the insurance companies fill their pockets while others die for lack of care.

George Trautvetter IN Lets improve the health care system rather than granting Cheney the billions he is asking for We are not even taking care of the wounded from Iraq because our health care system is in jeopardy! Get us out of Iraq and lets get our health care system back on track. Sincerely, A veteran

Jon Morgan IN please fix the health care in this country asap

Robert Ellman IN It's the right time and the right plan.

Mark Hasza IN We need it

Patricia Doan IN This would be nice but if it is going to tie the doctors hands up with a bunch of rules and calls to so-called insurance company everytime they need to prescribe meds, ex: Hoosier Healthwise, then it isn't worth the fight. Watch out! As you may get what you ask for but is it worth the insurance company regulating what meds you/or children can have, even when prescribed by doctor??

INDIANA Continued

- carol smith** IN We MUST return to FDR's Hill-Burton style health care; where everyone is covered -- it is a human right to have adequate health care.
- George Trautvetter** IN Pull the troops out of Iraq, take care of the wounded at home and get our health care program back on track for all!
- George Trautvetter** IN Lets improve the health care system rather than granting Cheney the billions he is asking for We are not even taking care of the wounded from Iraq because or health care system is in jeopardy! Get us out of Iraq and lets get our health care system back on track. Sincerely, A veteran
- Toby Strout** IN it is shameful that the united states, alone of all the industrialized nations, fails to provide a national health care system.
- Lee Brown** IN People everyday get sick and live with it because of not being able to afford to get better, or end up getting so much worse to TRY to get medicare and disability, which a lot of people get turned down for, Most people would pay more in taxes for the chance to have health care.
- Ruthanne Wolfe** IN A single payer health care system is urgently needed. We are currently spending about 15% of our GDP (more than any other nation) with lower quality health care than many other nations because much of the cost is going to health care "networks". That is inefficient, ineffective, and just plain stupid.
- John Walsh** I am acutely aware of the devastating effects of the current health care system. I was bankrupted due to my father's medical cost. I don't want to see anybody else go through what I endured. But we continue to pay huge sums without the benefits. And the uninsured continue to put so much strain on the system that hospitals are forced to close. In many sections of this country hospitals must divert emergency cases to other hospitals. Sometimes 3-4 adjacent hospitals must divert such cases adding previous minutes of travel time before the patient receives much needed services. It makes little sense that we have millions of Americans who are uninsured. We could extend coverage to every American for what we currently pay. We're paying for the system yet we're all in jeopardy because the system continues in decline. I strongly favor passage of a Single Payer Health Care System. It's about time to resolve this situation, so we can attend to other crushing national issues such as saving our manufacturing sector or educating our children. Certainly when this issue can be resolved with little or no additional money let's get it done; because we have an abundance of other issues that require our attention.
- George Trautvetter** IN Lets improve the health care system rather than granting Cheney the billions he is asking for We are not even taking care of the wounded from Iraq because or health care system is in jeopardy! Get us out of Iraq and lets get our health care system back on track. Sincerely, A veteran
- James Rodman, SR** IN WE need this
- Paul S. Kaczocha** IN "Everybody In. Nobody Out."
- Ruth Needleman** IN Single payer national health care is the ONLY way.
- RITA MCLINN** IN EVERYONE NEEDS HEALTHCARE IN THE RICHES COUNTRY AND MOST POWERFUL
- Adam Anders** IN We can't wait any longer for this to happen.
- Leon Madkins Sr.** IN If you think that, because you have health benefit now. That you are safe. Think about it twice. We need HR-676 PASS. Leon Madkins Sr.
- Gerald Peterson** IN At United Way of Allen County we see the stress and barriers many people experience because of inadequate healthcare coverage. The extreme waste and obscene profits in our current healthcare system are not sustainable. I support HR-676 and urge you to vote in favor of it.
- Jane Haledman** IN Mental health is a very inadequately covered area of health. The systems to help people readjust to a more "normal " life that they are capable of as opposed to a cookie cutter process of expecting people to get into minimum paying jobs and be on their own successfully is bad. It leaves people dependent on others when many have no one else to help them.
- Barbara Daniel** IN As a fairly recent cancer survivor, I am aware how lucky I have been to have health insurance. Life and death shouldn't rest on that chance.

INDIANA Continued

Dara Schulbaum IN I work for a community mental health center and have nearly daily experience of meeting and evaluating kids for treatment who can't get the treatment that they need because they don't have health insurance or their health insurance requires exorbitant co-pays, coinsurances, or deductibles that their hard-working parents can't make. It is tragic and feels so wrong to see people go without treatment who desperately need it....AND who may ultimately cost society and "the system" more because they didn't receive treatment when they needed it. We need to do something about this issue of lack of access to necessary care, and a single payer system would solve a GREAT deal of the trouble by allowing us to avoid paying the HMOs and their CEOs huge amounts of money to be middle men.

Edith Kenna IN Healthcare for all is an American issue - America cannot be strong unless its citizens have accessible, affordable, portable and quality healthcare. It is time for a new system design whose main goal is not profit, but health. Our current system is inequitable, expensive, and makes healthcare a luxury item. Of all national policy, that of healthcare affects each person more directly than any other. Please have open hearings on HR676, and allow information and opinion of the citizens to be heard.

Gregory Whetsel IN We are luckier than most folks because my wife's employer provides a group plan. However, the premiums are going up and so are the co-pays. Our prescription coverage is 70% but often our 30% part is well over \$50/prescription. I am diabetic and our part of my insulin alone is nearly \$200/month plus needles and testing supplies. I could make the payment on a new car for what we spend just on my diabetes each month and I take several other medications as does my wife. I thank God every month that we have some type of insurance coverage. I don't know how those without coverage survive. I have had to quit taking some medicine prescribed by my doctor because I have to choose between the medicine and other pressing needs such as food and shelter.

John Harpster IN I'm thrilled to be part of your team. Love the single payer concept. It is the most important mechanism to lower costs. Don't back down.

Terri Jackson TAKE A STAND FOR WHAT IS RIGHT!

KANSAS

James M Nordlund KS Mitakuye Oyasin! All people, as all life, are threads in the whole of the fabric of life, which will always need mending; yet, "we" can't allow it to be torn asunder!

Sister Mary Rhodes Buckler SL KS I think this is urgent. I've lived under a single payer program in England and know its value.

Raymond KS Medicare for all now!! yesterday!!!

David Davis KS I volunteer with several not-for-profit corporations in the Kansas City area, as I am now severely disabled. I shudder to think what happens to the multitude of individuals who require hospitalization as I did following an auto accident. I incurred a severe head trauma, but had I not been so lucky to have good insurance, I would have incurred over \$500,000.00 in debt. That ladies and gentleman, is a pit so deep neither I nor my family could have ever dug out.

Marianne Shouse KS HR 676 - Now!!!

Marianne Shouse KS SINGLE PAYER - national health care for all citizens in u.s. - now!!! All government workers including congress and house have medical coverage - for life - we elected them - it's about time they extend same benefits to folks who elected them...

Kathrine Robnett KS This is long in coming...We need to have insurance for all! No more high premiums or co pays!

KENTUCKY Continued

Edgar Lopez KY The only solution to the severe Health Insurance Crisis in this country is to embrace the concept of Universal Health Insurance and a Single Payer System (as proposed by PNHP: www.pnhp.org) that would eliminate the ineffective, cruel, unjust, unfair, unethical and harmful Managed Care System while we have 46 million americans with out health insurance and also the fact that the # 1 cause of bankruptcy in the USA (the richest country in the world) is medical bills. By the way: the average yearly salary of a CEO of some of the major health insurance companies is 11 million dollars, without stock options. Guess where that money is coming from? : the hard working middle class.

Elise Andre KY Such a system is long overdue--and it is *not* socialized medicine!

Beverly Hollingsworth KY I have a friend who is diabetic and has lost her healthcare. She now works part-time so she doesn't qualify for the few free programs but she still has to get her medication. Talk about catch 22. Work and miss out, don't work and miss out.

Nancy Reinhart KY I, as a 26 year old woman with no health problems, on no prescription medicine, pay an exorbitant amount for minimal health care insurance. Who is benefiting? Not me, not my family! This is an atrocity.

AFSCME Local 2629 American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, KY (FOR YOUR RECORDS: My name is a part of my email address. The name that needs to be listed on the petition is that of our union, listed as the first and last name. Our comments follow. Thanks, Sheila Wade) With millions of Americans either uninsured, or under insured the need for an overhaul of our nation's health care system is LONG overdue! Our Congressional Representatives have excellent health care insurance paid for by U.S. taxpayers. Is it too much to ask that we, their constituencies, receive (at the very least) the same level of health care coverage?

Jennifer Lantz KY We need HR 676. Please America, take a stand!

Rita Teasdale KY We MUST provide affordable health care for ALL. The money being made by the HMO's is unbelievable. I feel ashamed when I read about a bonus of millions to CEO's of these companies when there are so many people without healthcare.

Jody Johnson KY Why has it taken so long to do something that so obviously needs to be done!!!

Harriette Seiler KY I have family in Canada. They simply walk in to a health care facility, show their card and are treated at no (or minimal) cost. There has been no delay for surgeries; hospital and therapy costs are covered. Nursing home fees are reasonable. Prescription meds are usually the same as those in US. Children have a healthy start, the elderly are not fearful. How did we Americans get into such a sorry mess?

Lorena F. Parker KY Health care is a human right.

Donald Decker KY Something HAS to be done as soon as possible. Healthcare is getting out of reach for everyone not fortunate enough to be wealthy. And it is not totally our fault we are not wealthy.

Max Grant KY I am behind Universal Healthcare for mostly economic reasons. I have seen over and over again how companies won't hire in this jobless recovery because healthcare costs are so high. Our privatized system has all of the downfalls of "socialized" medicine, but none of the benefits, and all of the downfalls of privatized medicine, but none of the PROMISED benefits. We can easily do better, but it's hard to see how, short of just scrapping our system, we could do worse.

Todd Mayo KY World class high quality health care is an absolute right of every living creature. The denial of that right has plagued our nation and the world for too long. The time for waiting is over. We need H.R. 676!

Dr. Gary E. Pennington KY This may be the most urgent issue in the nation now, and must become an action priority!

Kris Philipp KY Poor Americans still need to be healthy Americans

Robin Helfers KY The economic cost of the uninsured to our country's economy and social well-being is far more than the cost of providing preventive health care. This will save lives, save families and improve our country's productivity.

Jenny Thrasher KY Health care is a right, not a privilege!

Tomas Bernal KY People before profits always.

Sarah Rowan KY I support CNHP 100%.

Melissa Hance KY I hope we can get this done before it's too late for my generation.

KENTUCKY Continued

Todd Mayo **KY** We're already paying for universal coverage. We're just not getting it. We're pouring a large portion of every health care dollar into the waste of the private insurance companies, their executive salaries and stock options, their lobbying and advertising. Health care is currently dominated by insurance firms and HMOs, institutions that are more bureaucratic and costly than Medicare. Right now, private companies are charging about 18% for administration, while the cost of Medicare administration is only 3%. People are waiting longer for appointments. Fewer people are getting a doctor of their choice. Physicians are being given monetary incentives to deny care. Pre-existing illnesses are being used to deny coverage. It's important to understand that insurance companies make more money by NOT providing health care. A single-payer system can save money by investing in preventive care, as well as by cutting out the insurance companies' profits. It is sound economics. It spreads the risk to extend Medicare to younger and healthier sectors of our population, thereby putting everyone in one insurance pool. It permanently saves and improves Medicare, while eliminating duplicative private and government bureaucracies. Let's do this!!

Tonya Kendall **KY** By implementing a national health care plan, college students, graduate students, and law students like myself will not have to continue to worry about what will happen in the unfortunate incidence that they become sick. Most of these students are trying to improve their community and themselves, but are forced to try to maintain full course loads and full time employment to receive health insurance. Or, in the case of many law students, they are forced to use what little supplemental income they have to receive only health insurance through their university, which often do not cover many expenses or dental. Please endorse HR 676 and help our nation's citizens.

James Clark **KY** U.S. Government stop feeding the health insurance FAT CATS and lets get low cost health insurance for all!!!!!!

Kris Philipp **KY** Kentucky Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression

Sandra Limpert **KY** We need this as surely as we need clean air to breathe and clean water to drink. It is immoral and embarrassing for people living in the richest country in the world not to have health insurance and adequate quality of healthcare. This needs to change, not 10 years from now, not five years from now, but RIGHT NOW.

Dr. Gary E. Pennington **KY** This bill is urgently needed to provide health care for ALL our citizens!

Dr. Gary E. Pennington **KY** It's time for us to join the rest of the civilized world that provides adequate health care for ALL its citizens!

Robert Page **KY** I had 37 1/2 years in the steel mill, and was told we would have insurance when the time comes to retire (when you need it most) and they decided that we didn't need insurance to survive! we have a pension, but better than half of it goes to pay our own insurance, what are we supposed to live on?? We need your help!!!! Thanks for all your help with this bill!

Mia Coleman **KY** All citizens deserve better healthcare options!

Natalie Reteneller **KY** it is the right thing to do!!!

Sandra King **KY** This should have already been in place and many people, my mother in law included, would still be alive. Because she couldn't afford her medicine (no job and no insurance, and not on disability - red tape takes months) - her health declined to the point that she was not able to be saved. She was only 56 years old. The day she died, her disability was approved.

Beverly Baker **KY** every person deserves healthcare

Kay Tillow **KY** Kentuckians desperately need this bill! We all have to work to pass it.

Sandra Limpert **KY** This looks great! We need this so very, very much! I can't imagine what it would be like to be able to go to the doctor or dentist when I need to, or to be able to get medication when I need it. What a blessed relief this would be....

Mary **KY** The reason so many sign up on ssi for there disability is for the insurance not the check think how much money could be saved by having a insurance program

KENTUCKY Continued

- Naomi Groce** **KY** nurses know that not for profit is the way to go
- Ike M. Thacker IV** **KY** Forthwith!!
- Charlotte Denny** **KY** Single party payer works in all other industrial nations except for the US and South Africa. It is about time that we end the disgrace of having so many uninsured in our nation.
- DR Thomas Brown** **KY** I have seen too much suffering due lack of National health coverage for all especially in mental health services
- Donald Decker** **KY** **My sister and my brother died due to inadequate health insurance and/or Doctors being afraid to send them to specialist to confirm and treat their medical problems. Shame on our Inconsiderate Representatives in Washington for favoring Big Insurance Companies and Pharmaceutical Companies instead of the people they are supposed to represent.**
- Deanna King** **KY** I have been without insurance for 2 years. I wonder if congress would like to walk in my shoes.
- Lorene Baker** **KY** All America should have the same health care program as our congressmen.
- Alberta White** **KY** If less countries have universal health care why can't the greatest country in the world have it? As a country, we need to learn how to take care of our own people before we start taking care of folk in other countries.
- Donald Decker** **KY** In a country as great as the United States of America, our leaders have failed us citizens. We can lose everything we worked our whole lives for, because of an illness. It's time to come to the aid of this country and do something FOR the citizens. HELP! PLEASE! Support and Pass this legislation. HR 676
- Hazel Decker** **KY** Time to take care of Americans. We are a rich country and so many have no Insurance and no way to get treatment.
- Mary Lane** **KY** I am a state employee, and I daily see the need for universal health care. Support this Bill NOW!
- James Partin** **KY** Healthcare Insurance cost and services growing faster then inflation. It is time for reform. If not Universal Health care then targeted tax cuts to have corporations provide adequate coverage at no cost to employees.
- Rebecca Hinkle** **KY** We must improve health care in the US to provide liberty and justice for ALL!
- Bennett Wallace** **KY** Healthcare is not a commodity it's a right!
- Malcolm McDonald** **KY** I strongly support any and all measures for national health insurance. Staying healthy and having access to treatment are the birthright of all humans. Government intervention is essential in order to resolve the mess created by the for-profit health care system
- Pat Tully, Jr.** **KY** It's far past time that Americans were educated about our failed third-world healthcare. ANY universal healthcare system would be an improvement.
- Kyle McCarley** **KY** The United States cannot continue to be the largest industrial nation without a national health care policy.
- Laurie Spezzano** **KY** **I am a licensed health insurance agent who might lose my business if this goes through - but I still support it. Day after day, I talk with small business owners, their employees, and people forced into the individual market. The system is broken and must be fixed! Insurance is supposed to be a shared risk, not a place where the luckiest also get the best rates.**
- Leslie Swanson** **KY** I am in need of dental surgery but cannot afford dental insurance. I had to apply for a medical card for my 6 year old son and luckily he can receive dental care. But what happens when it's too late to be treated, just because dental care is not affordable? We work hard at our jobs, healthcare should not have to be such an issue.
- Joanne B. Reynolds** **KY** Wake up America! Having a job doesn't guarantee decent health coverage and our unsteady economy doesn't guarantee a job!
- Daniel DeWitt** **KY** This is something America needs!!

KENTUCKY Continued

- Randy McQueen** KY This is LONG over due! We should not have to be wealthy to have health care!
- Ivonne Rovira** KY Even poor, poor countries, like South Africa, Cuba and Costa Rica, have national health care. Why not us?
- Randy McQueen** KY Thank you for this effort. If Iraq don't get us health care cost will!
- Jill Harmer** KY It's the middle class that loses the most. People below certain income get care at clinics and the rich can afford it.
- Christine & Kelly Hamilton** KY thank you
- Doug Grider** KY We need affordable, efficient health care for everyone. Health care should not be rationed.
- Rita Brinegar** KY Everyone should be able to have decent health care-without going broke paying for it!!
- Mary** KY think how much money would be saved if there was national health care plan biggest part of people sign up on disability for the medical care
- Betty Ferrell** KY Every American citizen deserves healthcare. If we can provide free healthcare to illegal immigrants, then the least we can do is provide it for our own citizens,
- Donald Decker** KY Time is NOW. We cannot continue down this spiral road of those that have and those that do not have. Our present healthcare system is a bust, hurting every American because we have to support unethical Insurance Companies whether we want to or not. Help, Help Help.
- Donald Decker** KY Healthcare is a mess and too many suffer because of it. This is an outrage for a nation such as the United States of America. The only ones not suffering is the Insurance Industry, making excessive profits and offering little hope. We need to get this factor out of Healthcare. We need Healthcare for ALL without all the hassles created by the Healthcare Insurance Companies. A single payer system is the ONLY answer. Representatives, Get off your perch and get this thing going. We need it and you know it.
- Kevin Frindik** KY No more death due to no healthcare!

LOUISIANA

- Carl Roberts** LA Any help toward high health care cost will be greatly appreciated
- Dot Grantham** LA every one should be entitled to good health care whether they have insurance or not
- Cathy Hightower** LA Stop the federal government from closing the Huey Long Charity Hospital system in NO. Prior to Katrina we had a system that worked for poor people and now they want to replace it with vouchers to insurance companies. Gut the first floors of Charity and the VA and get medical care to NO. People now seek health care in tents in NO as if America was a third world country.
- Mary Greene** LA I was a evacuee from Louisiana and live in New York and was receiving medical and when I got a job they cut me off saying that I making to much money. First of all I work 35 or less a week and temp job I need health insurance and I don't have it on my job because it part-time. So they don't offer it. So what do I do? I hope they give health care to the peoples in Louisiana do they don't have health care. Since they closed Charity Hospital what do they do? I hope it passes. Thank you
- Jeanne B. Green** LA Health care is so important for our marginal citizens. The costs are sometimes astronomical and people must choose between health care and eating. This should not happen in a rich country like the United States.

LOUISIANA Continued

Jeanne B. Green LA The United States is long overdue for acquiring universal health. We, the richest country in the world should not have people suffering for lack of health care. Additionally, Jesus made us responsible for "the least of these" and United Methodist Women accept his loving entreaty. Jeanne B. Green

Margaret Schwartz LA This act does not oppose those with money or wealth, and is not an attack on recipients of the current system (as it is often perceived). This act proposes a solution that benefits the quality of health and life of all Americans, regardless of income or status. Legislation supporting the principles of true democracy will not materialize without citizen support. This is a right we deserve, so a stand we must make!

Anthony Hahnebohm LA It about time

EDNA BLUNCK LA To save our Senators & Congressmen time when crafting an all-inclusive healthcare for ALL Americans, they could just use the bill they enacted for THEIR OWN PERMANENT, ALL INCLUSIVE HEALTH CARE - for which we taxpayers continue to pay. Just substitute "EACH AND EVERY AMERICAN CITIZEN" for "Senator . . . or (Congressman . . .)!!!! That'd work!

John McCollum LA **It is time to do the right thing.**

EDNA BLUNCK LA To save our Senators & Congressmen time when crafting an all-inclusive healthcare for ALL Americans, they could just use the bill they enacted for THEIR OWN PERMANENT, ALL INCLUSIVE HEALTH CARE - for which we taxpayers continue to pay. Just substitute "EACH AND EVERY AMERICAN CITIZEN" for "Senator . . . or (Congressman . . .)!!!! That'd work!

MASSACHUSETTS Continued

Jo-Ann Gorham MA It's time to take care of all people!!!!

Inga Bernstein MA Everyone deserves health coverage.

Patricia Anne Duggan MA There are so many elderly people who need help now. Taking care of our elders is RESPECT. For those that are just coming into this world and those that are challenged all deserve the right to medical care. This is about saving our nation!

Cindy Knox MA I have seen to many hard working people lose their life savings due to expensive health care, it is time we started taking care of our own.

Matthew Borus MA It's about time!

Paul Lachelier MA It's a simple principle: people over profits, and that entails health care for all, among other things (e.g., preventive care rather than drug-pushing to suppress problems, etc.).

Tala Lipshutz MA This would be a godsend to so many!

Diane Dujon MA Everyone needs good health care. It's a basic human right!

Diane Scherrer MA **We already have a single payer system in this country that works well called Medicare. Health Care privatization has failed. It's time to do the right thing and provide single payer health care to all.**

Leslie Greenberg MA HEALTH CARE FOR ALL

Ed Arndt MA Single Payer not only makes sense, it is the right thing to do, and should transcend any political affiliation.

Dorothy McCabe MA Please support this bill thank you.

Erika O'Neill MA It is unacceptable that in a country as wealthy as ours, health care is not considered a right and as such is not provided for all. It is time to change that!

MASSACHUSETTS Continued

Margaret A. O'Malley, RN MA Only with a single, publicly-funded system of health care will we ever be able to guarantee everyone access to the same high standard of quality health care that is affordable to us as individuals, families, communities, and a nation.

HENRY SOUDA MA IT IS A DISGRACE THAT WE ARE THE ONLY INDUSTRIALIZED NATION WITHOUT IT! POLITICIAN GREED IS RESPONSIBLE! LET'S HUMANIZE IT! GOD BLESS AMERICA AND THE WORLD WITH PEACE!!

Norma Ouellette MA It is long past due. The country "for the people" should truly respect its citizens by providing them with basic health care. Many poorer countries are doing a better job. We need to change our priorities and make health care #1.

Peter Arsenault MA Universal health care should be a basic human right!

Alice Swift MA A single payer system is the only way to have affordable universal health care. For the amount of money that is spent now, we could cover everyone if we didn't have all the non-health costs associated with the many health insurance companies, profit, advertising, and duplication of services.

Bert Barao MA This is the single most crucial issue facing our nation today.....this must happen now!

William L. Cobham MA Msac has been and continues to be a leader in the field of single payer/ universal health care for all. The number of uninsured and underinsured in this, the richest country in the world, is staggering and the numbers keep growing. The only sensible way to make adequate, comprehensive health care available to all is through single payer legislation. The time for it is now.

Elizabeth Pell MA This is the issue I most care about. Please make national health insurance a reality that covers the working poor and uninsured adequately.

Morton Thomas MA Real health care for all & some change in the Bushie tax breaks for the rich & very rich, Work out.
MThomas

Anna Shenk MA Oh, thank you for taking this urgent action!

Judith Nelson MA Everyone living in this country has the right to have health care.

Barbara Sibley RN MA Health care should be a right in the USA, not a privilege!

Donna Goodman MA I believe there should be some kind of health care for everyone but I don't think we should have to pay through the wazoo to get it

Barbara Kohin MA Congress must be brave enough to oppose the insurance lobby.

Morton Thomas MA And finally, legislation for health care for all which most folk can support. In your last term, Rep. Conyers, go get 'em. MThomas02118

Marie Colaneri MA It is about time that the United States rose to the level of other countries such as Canada, Netherlands, France.

Nancy Davies MA Time to join the civilized world!

Edward Mann MA It's the right thing to do.

Mark Adams MA I agree with all said in the petition except I'm not convinced that healthcare is a right. Furthermore I think that even if I agreed with that claim I would think very hard about the negative connotation and consequences, from a marketing standpoint, of pushing for recognition of such a right. It sells on it's own merit. Calling it an entitlement only causes resentment, resistance, fear, etc.

Sandrine Sheon MA We need affordable healthcare NOW!

Linda Hillenbrand MA It can be done and we're long overdue!

Nancy Corcoran MA Now is the time!!

MASSACHUSETTS Continued

- David Longland** MA We are LONG overdue for national healthcare -- it is not a privilege, but a right for citizens of the U.S.!
- Dwayne Morales** MA Hey Guys, Europe seems to have Universal Care, WHY can't WE?
- Gail Willette** MA The health care system in this country has gotten out of control and needs a complete over-haul so that everyone living in this country has access to health care. The Center For Disease Control knows how critical this issue is for the security of the country. All it would take is one serious plague to break out and most of us will be seeing our maker before old age. This inevitable scenario can be prevented if everyone in this country has health care coverage. Single payer health coverage is the only viable solution to this problem.
- Persephone Miel** MA I'm proud to see that my past (Carolyn Maloney), present (Charles Rangel, I'm still registered in Harlem) and future (Barney Frank) representatives are all co-sponsors of this bill. My comments on how having breast cancer made me realize that universal single-payer health care was the only way to go: notaboutbreasts.blogspot.com How can we pressure ALL presidential candidates to endorse this??
- Chris Allard** MA We must join the ranks of other nations in successful implementation of this program. The lives and health of us and our fellow citizens are at stake. We need to put an end to corporate greed at the expense of our well-being!
- Vera Gropper** MA Americans want a national health plan now, like Medicare for all!!
- Karen Nicholl Bunting** MA do you have any ideas how much one doctors visit cost? my doctor is \$193.00. Help please
- Ken Lacharite** MA I believe that this bill would improve the lives of all Americans and help America live up to its potential as great nation.
- Steven G. Randall** MA We in the United States have lived through decades of our peculiar institution, tying health care coverage to employment and the for-profit insurance industry. Time has provided sufficient evidence that this system does not work. As a nation we spend more than any other on health, yet the health status of the nation lags behind many who spend much less. It is time to free ourselves from bondage to this industry and to save our lives. We in Massachusetts are living in the most expensive state in the most expensive nation. We are on the very tip of the iceberg. It is time to get off before the berg melts away, drowning us all.
- Wendy Airne** MA This basic right in an educated society is long overdue.
- Diana Stein** MA I have good insurance and still got dumped after 25 years (!) by the University Health Services when I (and about 150 others) became 65 because they did not want to take Medicare for the first part of the bills! We need single payer to stop this nonsense and take care of everyone.
- James Heath** MA National is needed as to many people can not get insurance or other help. So it is needed badly.
Jim Heath
- James C. Heath** MA Too many people are going with out health care. I believe a national health care is needed. Jim
- Ann Eldridge Malone, RN** MA End the disgrace of America being the last industrialized country to provide national health insurance for its people. It used to be only America and South Africa and when they abolished apartheid, they did another right thing and re-wrote their Constitution to establish a RIGHT to healthcare for all.
- Janet Hand** MA I would like to trade in my Blue and White Card for a national plan that will cover my needs. I feel it unjust and illegal that insurance companies and HMO's take our health care dollars and use them for TV commercials, huge customer service departments, print ads and huge salaries for CEO's. I want my health care dollars spent on health care, PERIOD!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It's time for the people in this country to throw the proverbial "tea off the ship", and if the government doesn't want to give us what we need they need to get out of the way. This is what democracy looks like.
- Abraham B. Smith** MA Time, now.
- Joan Bernstein** MA Medicare for All is desperately needed for all Americans. We can afford it if we do away with all the overlapping and at the same time inadequate, expensive, and wasteful multiplicity of private and government systems. Let's fight for this! place of all the e a model that

Charles Heggie

MA Health Care For All!!!

Kathleen Clisbee

MA In the 12 months October 31, 2002 to November 1 2003 I paid out \$975 in copays to doctors and pharmacies and I have Tufts Total Health Plan through work! I was in line at the pharmacy trying to decide which utility wasn't getting paid this month because I was filling 3 prescriptions and they were each \$25 co-pays! On one side of me would be someone (on welfare?) only paying 25 CENTS and someone else picking up a prescription that rang up as \$325! There has GOT to be a better way! I hear about people filling their prescriptions through Canadian pharmacies... medicines manufactured in this country selling for much less in Canada or Mexico than they do here!

Janne Hellgren

MA We in Massachusetts would love to see a national universal, single payer health care system; in the meantime, we will keep up the work needed to make it a reality for our state.

Deirdre Kiely

MA Health care should not only be for those who can afford it.

Gale Denis

MA Many people neglect health problems due to lack of ability to pay. Ultimately many of these problems become more serious (and more expensive).

Pat MacHugh

MA National health care is the only just answer to an expensive injustice we continue to perpetrate on each other.

Joan Rockwell

MA The cost of health is effecting everyone but the small percentage of wealthy Americans. People have to drop their health care coverage because premium costs are rising faster than incomes.

Lenny Cavallaro

MA Obviously, the system presently in place does not work for MANY people. Affordable healthcare is a great idea, and I urge consideration of the single-payer system!

Mary Ann Tourjee

MA It is essential that healthcare be universally available for all. It is time to pass this bill!

Johanna Plaut

MA It can be done! We need "Medicare for All."

Joseph Chimera

The American healthcare system is sick. In his book, *As Sick As It Gets*, a local physician, Dr. Rudy Mueller, discusses the shocking realities of raging high costs, untold human tragedy and blatant greed which are the basis of this compelling case for universal single payer healthcare in the United States. A fascinating, must read book. I commend Dr. Mueller for taking such a bold stand. Dr. Mueller was a guest on our local call in radio program today. From the interaction of the callers, it is evident that people are very worried about their health care and the escalating costs of such care. Keep the pressure on those who have the power to make the necessary changes in our health care system.

Georgia Diana Swann

MA I find it really difficult to think about all of the people in this country who do not have health care or are underinsured. Having a national healthcare system is one of the most important things that this country can do for its citizens and I hope that it will happen in the near future.

Wallace Campbell

MA I make \$35,000 a year, am self employed, and my wife, who has a brain injury is, amazingly enough, not eligible for free health care from the state. So I pay \$508 a month for health insurance which doesn't cover prescription drug costs. She works at Seattle's Best Coffee six hours a week, walks dogs for two people, and begs for more hours from the coffee shop on a monthly basis. I've considered offering a \$5000 reward to the manager to be patient and train her so she can do the extra hours and get the health care benefits, as I'm paying \$6000 a year now for health insurance, and will probably be paying \$8000 next year if it goes up 35% like it has the past few years.

Bernice Speliotis

MA this is the only country that doesn't take care of their people, it's about time we should all get together and fight for our health care. politics and the rich only want to full there pockets

James Harris

MA Please pass HR 676!

Barbara Sullivan

MA A single-payer health care system is "an idea whose time has come." Although many states are trying different approaches to the health care access problem, none of them will be affordable unless we move to a single-payer system that will get the insurance company expenses and profits out of the mix. Please do what is right now.

Michael Kaplan

MA Let's finally do it!

MASSACHUSETTS Continued

- KURT PELLETIER** MA TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN FIRST... MONGO "If you love your freedom, stand behind your country" U.S.A.
- Maureen Auclair** MA Health Care should be a RIGHT for every American Citizen, not a privilege for the wealthy.
- Victor Sulkowski** MA Feel the love.
- Naomi B. Isler** MA I admit to some uncertainty about whether 'single payer' can ever become reality, unless some deal can be struck so as not to put many of the existing employees of insurance companies on the unemployment lines. However, we need to do something about our deteriorating health care system SOON!!!!
- Rand Wilson** MA Medicare for All is the most viable and easily understood way to achieve health care for all. To win it, we need to link the anger and frustration people feel about Bush's Medicare sellout with the outrage workers feel about bearing the burden of escalating insurance costs while paying more for health care services.
- Michael D'Intinosanto RN** MA Some say it's a shame, I say it's a crime. That the richest industrialized country in the world can't find a way to provide healthcare to all its citizens. This madness must end. Universal healthcare now!
- Francoise LaMonica** MA Let's join the rest of the developed world and establish in our institutions that health care is a right for all.
- Sophie C. Koch-Weser** MA How very sad, that this great country of ours can spend billions on hopeless wars, but cannot help insure the health of so many of our citizens. Surely this must be uppermost in our minds as we plan our future and that of our children and grandchildren.
- Persephone Miel** MA I'm proud to see that my past (Carolyn Maloney), present (Charles Rangel, I'm still registered in Harlem) and future (Barney Frank) representatives are all co-sponsors of this bill. My comments on how having breast cancer made me realize that universal single-payer health care was the only way to go: notaboutbreasts.blogspot.com How can we pressure ALL presidential candidates to endorse this??
- Dave Costello** MA This is actual Health Care. What Mass did and what everyone is proposing is Mandated Health Insurance, not real health care.
- Barbara Mende** MA If we don't make every effort, we'll never get out from under big insurance. Health care is so badly run, the government can't be worse.
- Joseph Bell** MA Health care is now the most secondary option after taking care of our veterans (I am against the war and bush)but I know a lot of people need healthcare ,esp. children
- Wayne Wilson** MA The people of America deserve comprehensive single payer health coverage. The United States was the first country to mention universal coverage back in the Wilson administration and is the LAST to implement it. I presently have no health coverage, and if I were to fall ill it would devastate my family (my fiancée and our two month old twin sons)
- David Hopkins** MA As a Massachusetts resident, I am appalled by the fact that more, not fewer, dollars will be flowing into the greedy coffers of the health insurance industry - by force. Please don't insult our intelligence by calling it 'universal'. It's not universal by any stretch of the imagination as long as the health insurance industry is in the driver's seat! I won't surrender any of my hard earned dollars to this voracious industry. Furthermore, I won't contribute to any 'health plan' with selfsame dollars until I know for sure that the profiteers have removed themselves from the helm of the sinking ship of their own making. In other words, no HR 676, No Dollars From Me! Now you can take THAT to the bank, PILGRIM! Sincerely, Dave Hopkins
- tom MacLean** MA Lets revive local society, care for each other and dump the corporate healthcare industry's exploiters.
- Michelle Hemingway MD** MA I see patients all the time who for unforeseen catastrophic reasons do not have insurance or are grossly underinsured. As a leader in the world, how can we not take care of our citizens? Our priorities need to shift NOW.
- Nancy Kirschner** MA So obviously the 'right' thing to do. Please begin hearings NOW.
- Nancy Ramsden** MA Everyone needs adequate healthcare so we all may be healthy. The time is NOW.

MASSACHUSETTS Continued

Steven G. Randall MA As Andre Schiffrin reports in his new book, "A Political Education: Coming of Age in Paris and New York." America has lost the vision it had after WW II when Truman attempted to provide non profit health care for all under the Fair Deal. Why must our people sacrifice both their treasure and their health for the sake of private insurance company profits? I join with Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D - OH) in saying that the person we elect as our new president should not be an insurance salesman. Single-payer Now!

Jon Caetano MA I'm an Operation Iraqi Freedom war vet without health insurance for neither myself nor my family. I'm not eligible for the Mass sponsored plan because my house hold income is just above the cutoff.

Lydia Carollo MA Working in health care, I see many people who delay care due to lack of insurance and have serious health problems. Insurance needs to cover the basics for all, but also have people have a stake in doing their best to maintain and improve their health-and not expect everything to be paid for without effort or cost to them somehow.

"Fact: Thousands of Americans suffer and die each year because they can't afford adequate healthcare. Fact: Even if you don't care about those people, the for profit healthcare system is hurting our country by forcing us to spend billions (hundreds of billions) of dollars on an inherently wasteful system, thus creating a huge drag on the economy that affects everyone."

-David Sirota

MARYLAND

Julie Taylor MD It's time!

Barbara Vance MD Let's use the 89 billion Halliburton is going to receive to give health care to everyone.

Bill Dowling MD It's the right thing to do for working people, the unemployed, and especially for children under the age of 21, because this would take a large burden off of there parents.

Valentina Moghadam MD This is long overdue, and is a fiscally responsible plan. American citizens -- working people and employers alike -- deserve decent and affordable health care.

Jeremy Black MD This is so clearly the best economic and moral solution to the crises in our health care system.

Michael Ratcliffe MD When I was a student living in England, with limited resources, I never worried about access to healthcare. I'm a well-paid professional now and can afford a good healthcare plan (my employer contributes part of the cost), but I'm keenly aware that without such a good job, my family and I might not have access to the kind of care we need and deserve.

James Baldrige MD Maryland Universal Health Care Action Network.

Carol Shannon MD IT'S ABOUT TIME.

Julie Taylor MD GO GO GO GO GO!

Julie Burge MD People have been suffering for too long in the richest nation in the world. It's time to Mobilize!

Austin Alexander MD it is time for our leaders to recognize that a healthy nation is a more productive nation.

Helen Brunner MD Your pop up menu does not list the District of Columbia which is where I reside so I put Maryland.

Sandra Bryant MD Everyone needs and deserves health care.

Dominic Vera MD Health Care is the most important factor for our Americans to access the medical care and health support for everyone.

MARYLAND Continued

- Jim Hudson** I want to help to push National Health Care into existence. Jim Hudson
- Erin Boensch** MD We need this system.
- BEATRICE UZOHO** MD I ADMIRE PEOPLE WITH GOOD HEART. HEALTH CARE FOR ALL
- Kate Duncan** MD I strongly believe that affordable health care should be available to everyone. Kate
- James Baldrige** MD I and others have been working for over a decade for a Maryland State plan similar to HR 676. Because people and their legislators are starting to recognize that the present healthcare crisis may soon be a national disaster. We have to convince them that a single-payer solution is the only solution and it will cost less than what we do now.
- Douglas McNeill** MD Haven't we seen enough suffering in families (bankruptcies, foreclosures), complicated deeply by lack of medical coverage?
- Melissa Nelson** MD **Thank you for this petition! I am in the middle of fighting with my insurance company over surgery I had in April, they agreed to it and told me that it was not a pre-existing condition and now after I had the surgery and it cost \$8000 they are saying it is a pre-existing condition and are not paying. I am fighting tooth and nail on this...our present insurance companies are corporations and are out to make money...it is a crying shame. Thanks for your concern about this issue!**
- Donna Stigler** MD It is about time we have universal health care in this country. Working families with two children, making approximately \$60K per year can not even afford the premiums that most insurance companies are asking which run about \$900 per month. That is a house payment for most families and the price keeps skyrocketing. We should be ashamed that we spend billions of dollars on other countries and people in our country go without - Shame on us!!!! I tried to sign the petition online but was unable to do so. If you could add my name, it would be greatly appreciated.
- Nichelle Jahmani** I believe that insurance companies are a scam. We have very many excellent doctors and nurses that get burned. I would like quality healthcare for all.
- Becky French** MD The cost of health insurance is breaking a lot of people in this country, and we don't get as effective care as people in Europe and Canada do. HR.676 is the best solution to this that is currently available. Please make this possible.
- Russell Kovach** MD Reality is that the universal healthcare will save more Americans EVERY DAY than died in the September 11th attacks (which we have spent many billions of dollars retaliating and protecting against). How can we justify that cost without spending less money to save MANY MORE Americans with universal health care? It is time... it has been time... for Universal Healthcare. I can promise that I will vote with healthcare considerations on my mind. Do what is best for your country, support Universal Healthcare!!!
- Lawrence Brown** MD **How can America be considered a great nation when it does not even take care of all of its citizen's primary needs? The health and welfare of the United States' citizens depends on the decisions that our governing representatives make. If those decisions are only in the best interests of the rich, then we are not really a nation "for the people." We are a nation "for the rich people." We should keep our priorities in order by allowing some of the wealth of this nation to be spread among the citizens who live here. The natural resources in America came from God alone. Life itself comes from God alone. Love comes from God alone. If we are to survive as the nation of prosperity that we were intended to be, we must use the things that came from God in a way that will please Him. HR676 would be a step in the right direction. It will not solve all our problems but it will save lives and show the world that we care enough about our people to give them a share of the resources that were given to America. This healthcare program might just save the life of a future president, a future scientist, a future world renowned inventor, or one of our grandchildren. The most important reason to implement HR676 is because it is the right thing to do. To "love thy neighbor as we love ourselves" is to give our neighbor adequate healthcare. Few decisions or few choices will be as important as supporting HR676. Do the right thing.**

MARYLAND Continued

Becky Genberg MD Health is a fundamental human right. Everyone should have access to affordable and high quality healthcare regardless of employment status or ability to pay.

Monchel Pridget MD A healthy citizenry is a higher priority than a voting citizenry.

James Baldrige MD Maryland UHCAN has been advocating single-payer for over 10 years, and I am pleased to once again support the legislative efforts of John Conyers for his, and our, United States National Health Insurance Act, HR676. This is excellent.

AARON BISHOP MD We need a national health care system that is reorganized on a non profit basis and is publicly accountable to the american people. HR676 is that program that will offer comprehensive coverage to all and will be financed by all on an equitable basis.

AARON BISHOP MD We need a national health care system that is reorganized on a non profit basis and is publicly accountable to the american people. HR676 is that program that will offer comprehensive coverage to all and will be financed by all on an equitable basis.

Beverly Hummel MD We must do away with for-profit healthcare. Pass Conyers 676 single payer government funded health care. EVERYBODY IN NOBODY OUT

Marilyn Wood MD Health care is too expensive and inefficient. Too many people are not covered nor have inadequate coverage. We can afford a universal, single-payer system, and we need it now. Please give your full support to such a system.

MAINE

Karen D'Andrea ME Since losing my healthcare benefits several years ago, first I was only able to afford catastrophic insurance (\$15,000 deductible, for \$100 a month) but those rates went up twice in the two years I had it and I was unable to afford it. Now my healthcare is like a patchwork quilt. Unable to qualify for low-income healthcare (MaineCare) because I have money saved in an IRA, I utilize Maine Breast & Cervical for diagnostics and one yearly physical, cash, Time Dollars (we're lucky to have that access here in Portland, ME) and my Veteran's benefits (but I hate going there bec: use I don't trust them and have had some awful experiences). I'm a single mom (thankfully my son is covered by his father) and se lf employed. I just want decent healthcare with continuity. Thank you for this opportunity.

Maureen Hyslop ME We owe it to our community of citizens to offer health care to all who need it without the financial burdens that now put this right beyond reach for too many.

Julia Abernethy ME The wealthy can afford whatever medical care they need or want. The poor who qualify for Medicaid have access to tests and treatments that I, as one who has been serving Medicaid clients for 14 years, could never consider available to me due to expense. Because I can't afford medical care, even with my insurance, I'm highly motivated to maintain my quality of life through healthy diet and exercise. We do the poor a huge disservice by offering a system where medical care is an exemplary reward for their poverty. In a world where they receive more recognition for their illnesses than for their personhood, more social contacts through illness than are available to them through wellness, why would they choose to eat well or exercise regularly? They see anonymity in wellness. It's brought on through our system. Uniform healthcare for all can improve quality of life for the current medicaid recipients.

Rick Ackermann ME I'm only voting for people who support a national health care system that cover everyone. Everyone. When it comes to single payer health care I plan to be a single issue voter.

Sara Stalman ME Everybody In/ Nobody Out

Venerable Kobutsu Malone - Osho ME The time of catering to corporate interests over human needs has ended. Military spending has reached insane levels, wars of empire make no sense, the American People are awake and on the move. We demand that the insurance and drug industries cease and desist in their greed motivated activities. We demand a sane and humane single payer national healthcare system for all.... NOW!

Bruce Gagnon ME Health care not \$8.5 billion a month for the occupation of Iraq

MAINE Continued

Jane Sumner ME The fact that America provides excellent health care for those who can afford it and allows those who can't to suffer or perish is far from the America that we know can exist as a beacon for the rest of the world.

Tom Ellefsen ME Please make this a top priority for all Americans. One bad accident could financially cripple someone for life, not to mention the physical suffering. People that don't earn that much can't take the burden of it. Other countries have national healthcare, and ours is meant to be the best country. Please make it happen.

Kate Harris ME I have not had health "insurance" for the past six years, and as I near 50 this is of some concern. But I'm not content with just looking out for myself. It is time for our country to provide health "care" for all, which is markedly different from insurance, which may or may not be there when you need it.

Cynthia Hanford For the first 40 years of my life, I had zero access to health care. For the last 10 years, I have been in a succession of HMOs, none of which will cover the health problems that affect me (I need a wheelchair and extensive dental work, neither of which are covered). Everyone is dissatisfied with the current system, even if they have insurance. Some never use their "health care" because they cannot cover the deductible. Co-payments of 20% can be unattainable when doctors and hospitals charge so much. We need a system that covers everyone for all their healthcare needs and that controls costs -- a single payer system that does not place people's health below making a profit for insurance companies. And we need a system that considers dental, vision and mental health care a part of each person's health. We also need to recognize that employers are keeping people underemployed with part-time and temporary work in order to avoid giving medical benefits.

Ruth Gabey ME To whom it may concern: Americans are not receiving health care, even the ones who are covered by employers and also those who can afford it outright. Treating young children with drugs is improper. Many drugs have serious after effects on adults as well. Naturopathic health care providers offer natural healing and these ND's should also receive reimbursement for their services because they really make people well. At 76 I take no drugs, do not have regular MD checkups and I am well. I do take food supplements, however. Therefore, I would hope that any Single payer or National Health Care legislation would include reimbursement to Naturopathic Doctors. Thank you.

Shirley Taylor ME My husband was taken off his Blood Pressure meds because the one he was on wasn't covered, he has come very close to being in the hospital. WE NEED A BETTER SYSTEM NOW!!!!

Michelle Kaddy ME This bill is WAY overdue; it needs to go into effect as soon as possible.

Paul Cohen ME Because people who have exhausted their unemployment insurance or who have been forced to accept part-time or inappropriate jobs are not counted as unemployed, the real unemployment rate in this country is much higher than the official rate suggests. Although it is older workers who need health insurance the most, corporations have routinely laid off their older employees who have little chance of finding any new employment that offers health insurance. Even younger workers often find it impossible to find employment that offers health insurance. Private insurance is unavailable to too many people in this country, either because of preexisting conditions or because the cost exceeds their income. This is truly shameful in this richest country in the world. Other, less wealthy countries offer health care to all citizens. Even a country as poor as Cuba sees health care as an important responsibility of the government and as a consequence has a lower infant mortality rate and generally a healthier population than the U.S. has. At the risk of repeating myself, this is truly shameful.

MICHIGAN

Brandon Savage MI It's about time the medical industry gets some regulation.

Leah Klein MI Working in a big-city medical center for the last 20 years, I could tell you stories of such terrible waste of resources CAUSED by insurance requirements, such as patients who arrive for a procedure with a small mistake on a referral form. If we can't reach the referring physician's office to get a corrected copy faxed, the procedure has to be cancelled and the staff and equipment are idle for an hour or two. PRIVATE MEDICAL INSURANCE IS NOT COST-EFFECTIVE.

James McCullough MI health care is out of control because they have their hands so far down Bush's back pocket, they can get anything they want we want lower insurance

Richard Massengill MI National Health Care is a priority in PACE Int'l. Union (I am a Representative there). But I also have 6 grandchildren and I worry for them and the health system we have left them.

MICHIGAN Continued

- Jo Ann Bazata** **MI** Its about time.
- Margaret Richardson** **MI** Adequate healthcare for all isn't optional, it is a necessity. All other industrialized countries have universal healthcare - why not our country?
- Will Fortin** **MI** It is time they admit to the wrongdoings of healthcare privatization and unfair profits over human needs.
- Jaclyn Pugh** **MI** I cannot afford health care coverage. I am an independent full time working part time college student.
- Richard Bourgeois** **MI** We need to get our congressmen to co sponsor HR 676. Why only 35 so far in the house? Maybe we should vote the others out? Also, maybe all the senators - they do not even have a bill in the senate for "National Health Insurance.
- Richard Bourgeois** **MI** We need to get our congressmen to co sponsor HR 676. Why only 35 so far in the house? Maybe we should vote the others out? Also, maybe all the senators - they do not even have a bill in the senate for "National Health Insurance.
- Gary Donn** **MI** A National Health Care System, single payer, with an emphasis on prevention-is long overdue!
- Scott Reagan** **MI** **As a physician in Michigan I see many patients with no health care and it saddens me. Many people who cannot afford health care will delay going to any health care provider if injured or shorten treatment plans due to the lack of funds. Many insurance companies have raised premiums out of reach here and even medicaid and medicare has decreased coverage due to lack of funding. We need to rally together to get every citizen health care. By doing this we can help eliminate discrimination in health care and this can lead to eliminating other forms of discrimination.**
- Thomas Cawood** **MI** If the media hadn't ridicules Hillery back in '93, we might have already had a health care program in place. It's past time we take care of all of our citizens without a tier system for ir come.
- Frank Lynn** **MI** I run a free clinic. The demand for our services are increasing as more and more people are un- or under insured.
- Phyllis Soik** **MI** Time for action
- Jo Dibert-Fitko** **MI** National Health Insurance should be a MUST for everyone! As someone who has to buy health insurance and is also diagnosed with a pre-existing medical condition, I have found it extremely expensive...and it offers minimal coverage! The past two years I have had a rare eye condition and have had to have extensive medical care. and we had to take out a loan to cover the expenses. As small business owners, we are also unable to provide coverage to our employees. It is time for all of you in Washington to approve National Health Insurance. YOU are covered with it. why do you deny it to the rest of us? It is indeed the largest medical, social and economic concern in this country. I have contacted all my Senators and Congressman and NONE of you have endorsed it or responded to my query, except to mention Medicare. Start listening to and representing your constituents! Thank you.
- Brian McAfee** **MI** A socialized health care system is the only fully moral and ethical option. Aside from being the socially just method the cost would be small when compared to the billions being poured into the Iraq war.
- Jo Anne Bier Beemon** **MI** Environmental issues of clean water, clean air and toxins in our living environment take a greater and greater toll on Americans. Health is everyone's business. We need universal health care and health care reformation. Our nurses are on strike because of skyrocketing profits and mismanagement of funding. Good for Mr. Conyers. He is a hero!
- Sharon Smith** **MI** My heart bleeds for every American that can't afford health insurance and doesn't go to the doctor when they need medical care because they don't have health insurance. I have several family members in this situation. Wake up America!! We are in a crisis.
- Jay Hoinville** **MI** It is time!
- Nicholas Reiber** **MI** This sounds like a great idea. With that many people lacking health care, something needs to happen now.

MICHIGAN Continued

- Armand and Jane Nevers** MI We are all supposed to have equal rights in this country. Well health care is a right and so far we are not equal when it comes to this important issue. Please do the right thing and pass H.R.676. Everyone In, Nobody Out.
- Therese "Terri" Emerick** MI Enclosed is a link to my Congressional Statement (filed online) re: Medicare D, which also states the need for a single payer health care system. <http://waysandmeans.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=view&id=5047>
- Dorothy Kaltz** MI Conyers and this legislation are the best. Besides covering everyone and eliminating the waste in the insurance industry, it would also be a huge help in helping automotive become more competitive and create good manufacturing jobs in the US instead of China.
- Deborah Young** MI Health care is a right, not a privilege, stop kow-towing to big insurance/big wall street reserve managers and REGULATE the insurance industry again - for starters. Then learn from the European mistakes/success and craft a uniquely American solution that can astound the world yet again with our YANKEE INGENUITY!
- Carissa Gluth** MI Universal Health Care is not only logical but also humane. My family pays out a lot of money for health care and I am tired of being raped by health insurance companies!
- Edward Johnson** MI THIS IS A GREAT WEB SITE TO GET INVOLVED AND DO SOMETHING --GREAT SUGGESTIONS ON GETTING A PETITION GOING- HOPE CONGRESS CAN SEE THE LIGHT AND DOESN'T CAVE IN TO BIG\$\$
- Daniel Gillenwater** MI Not providing Universal Healthcare is one of the greatest sins a country like the United States can commit!
- William & Marjorie Bocks** MI We believe a single payer national health insurance is the only sensible and humane way to go. We have lived in Canada and have Canadian friends who think people in our country are not very smart
- Maria Bolding** So many times we hear from our lovely President that he is a good Christian man. I want to ask him what would Jesus do? He would feed the hungry help heal the sick, I do not think he would sell out to the AMA and pharmaceutical companies. Health care for all!
- Elizabeth Ball** MI It is a complete injustice that this country is willing to provide cosmetic surgery to military personnel and their families while many civilian Americans pay cash, thus driving themselves further into debt, for all medical expenses. Every American should be able to see a doctor without having to choose between food for their family and a biopsy that they desperately need.
- Marvin Ostrander** MI We can't compete globally without it
- Roger Scott** MI The timing is right!!!!!!
- Jimmie Wells** MI I think every American should have National Health Ins. we are suppose to be the richest country in the world and cannot take care of our people. We need to concentrate on American People for a change!!
- Jimmie Wells** MI I think every American should be covered by National Health Ins. We can spend all our monies on other countries, but we cannot take care of our own
- Cheryl Graunstadt** MI If citizens truly took a leadership role, the politicians would have no choice but to follow. Healthcare for everyone is a human right and frankly, my feeling is that we should not be asking elected officials for National Healthcare Now, but telling them to get it done!
- JD** Health Care Now!!! Do what is right!
- Frank Grimminger** MI I am for single-payer healthcare. As a nation it is a moral imperative.
- Maria E Grimminger** MI As a first nation industrialized country, it is only right and just to have access to healthcare for everyone. It is a crime as a nation to have such a large percentage of our population with health care at all or is underinsured because of economic hardship.
- Mary Schwartz** MI I am happy to join the many others in asking the members of Congress to quickly pass HR676
- Kristin Batdorf** MI 9 years without real insurance is too long.

MICHIGAN Continued

- Nancy Jenkins** MI Our family recently lost a 38 year old niece. Her cause of death was pneumonia-she had no health insurance and could not afford medical treatment.
- Kristin Batdorf** MI 9 years without real insurance is too long.
- James P Zubulake** MI More than happy to get involved
- Greg Rosati** MI If we don't solve healthcare we won't have any jobs left in this country as that's the main reason for outsourcing.
- Richard Pawlowski** MI This will never happen unless the "people" get behind it and petition the Congress and vote the right people in. Big Business and Government won't initiate it.
- Sam Stark** MI The best way to look out for yourself is by looking out for everybody. When everybody is in, nobody is left out. Health care for all.
- Chris Mills** MI Saw you on Democracy Now!
- Josephine & Frank Tosiello** MI It's time! A single payer health program for the entire country is long overdue.
- Chris Cantway** MI My parents who are hard-working and self employed can only afford a catastrophic plan with a high deductible. I can only afford a catastrophic plan as well and the yearly premium goes up 10-20% per year. These plans discourage regular check-ups that might prevent problems from becoming more serious.
- Mark Reinertson** MI Why is it that I can be a drug addict and get free healthcare, I can be an alcoholic and get free health care, I can be a prisoner and get free health care? BUT, I can work hard in this terrible job market, get my job sent overseas and have to start a new job search again and again and I get NO healthcare? Break the monopoly of the big insurance companies!
- Mary Ellen Howard** MI I run one of the oldest free clinics for the uninsured in the USA, Cabrini Clinic in Detroit. One thing free clinics clearly understand is that we are not the answer to the 47 million uninsured. The answer is a single payer plan which provides universal access to a basic level of health care.
- Judith Transue** MI I see so many of my neighbors and friends--especially family farmers-- who have no access to healthcare because they have no insurance. Universal healthcare is very needed.
- Deborah Anderson** MI every one needs health care there are people that die every day because they don't have health care and not enough money to go to the doctors or hospital. I had a friend who died because she had a heart attack she thought she pulled a muscle in her back she was a waitress she had 2 kids and instead of going to the hospital she went to bed her son found her dead the next morning she was 39 years old if she had had health care she would have went to the hospital. the politicians in this country we all live in will never have that happen to them they have made sure there set for life . but not the low income tax payers
- Elizabeth Ball** MI My son recently lost his health insurance through the state of Michigan. They tell me that I need to purchase him private insurance and that there is nothing that they can do. I am a single mother and I work full time. My son's father passed away three years ago, which has made things difficult. The company that I work for lays me off each year for an average of five months. Those times are very tough and scary for the both of us. We have depended on state health insurance to care for my son's stomach disease which leaves him in pain daily and requires prescription drugs that total to over two hundred dollars. Why has the state denied me the insurance that keeps my son healthy? Because they claim that I make too much money. Here's the kicker: I am currently covered under the state's young adult program to receive treatment for cancer. No private health insurance company will enroll my son unless I am also enrolled under their insurance. If I cancel my current coverage in order to cover my son, the company will consider my cancer a pre-existing medical condition and I will not receive treatment. I am a mother being forced to choose between her child's health and her own life. How can this happen in the richest country in the world?
- Herman May III** MI Hello fellow citizens. I am a healthcare worker. I see first hand the relationship between insurance companies and healthcare. Although this relationship is profitable for some it is detrimental to all. Reasons why include: decreased care for uninsured, decreased community health protection and facility closures. We must not falter generations await!

MICHIGAN Continued

Sara Bode MI Thru the LWV, and efforts with a national Congressional campaign last year, I have become quite familiar with the extremely expensive, and barely average health care system that exists in the United States today. It is unacceptable that in the US nearly half million people have no insurance and another half million are underinsured. And on top of that, institutions meant to take care of people have been having to struggle to handle the needs of their patients, the poor, the uninsured, and their own costs. Our current system substitutes profits for care as a driving force. That Profits are not appropriate motivators when it comes to medical care is a sad lesson we've learned over the past 20 years. A different system is needed, and HR 676 does an excellent job of laying out such a system. I urge support for HR 676.

EB Guy MI This is long overdue. America should be ashamed that so many of the citizens of this wealthy country cannot afford such a basic right as health care.

Stephen O'Leary MI Once the number of people who see the benefits of this plan exceed the number more concerned with preserving the status-quo for their own profit or that of their constituents, progress might finally be made.

Denise Stodola MI Although I have health insurance through my work, the exorbitant amount taken from my salary each month, as well as the cost of co-pays and medication, places an incredible strain on our budget. Because our household income is slightly above the national average, the fact that we have such trouble with medical costs (even though we're a healthy family) means that others must find the situation impossible. In fact, I just now have health care, even though I am in my mid-40s. The fact that so many Americans cannot afford even the most basic of healthcare is unconscionable, particularly when insurance companies are raking in billions of dollars a year: *every* American deserves the right to be healthy, no matter what their salary range.

James F Bish MI I am a retired 35 year state of Michigan medical social worker and disability examiner. Many of the horror stories of people needlessly suffering, being permanently disabled and often passing on because of being denied timely and thorough medical care haunt me to this day, even though I have been retired for five years.

Therese Terns MI I am a single woman, age 55, teaching for 26 years in the Catholic schools but forced to pay my own health insurance 5 years ago. Blue Cross/Blue Shield just sent me the increase in rates for a single person, 55-up, and it is over \$500 a month. That is \$100 dollars more than I have been paying. I take home approximately \$900 a month. I need health insurance now more than ever as I am showing my age. What am I going to do? I have no one to support my life.

Robert Sisler MI As a social worker I have seen people pay for years for health care while they were young and healthy only to be forced to beg in this present system when they are in most need of health care. This is America we can do better and there is a real solution HR676.

MINNESOTA

Nancy Erickson MN There is a HUGE disconnect in our country between the ideal of a nation that cares for the medical needs of its people and the reality of that process. As an RN, everyday, I see examples of a broken system. As a small business owner, I am outraged at the costs of health insurer. Fix this mess now!!!

Diane Dodge MN If is a "nation of the people, by the people and FOR the people", and everyone who serves in the US Congress is covered by a government sponsored health plan (they are), then why not the rest of the nation??? IT IS TIME!

Gigi Seaver MN A single parent (not receiving child support or any financial aid), working two jobs, at the very least, should be able to take their sick child to a doctor!! Our government needs to take a look at the "actual" cost of living and see that their formulas and "poverty guidelines" are not reality.

Sandra Kroeplin-Lilleoien MN There have been times I've went a year or more without medical insurance. Sandra

Nancy Erickson MN The time is now to change our broken system. I am an RN, who owns my own consulting business. Daily I see evidence of people unable to get the most basic health needs addressed. I am ashamed that our country does this to its people!

Ashlee Buskala MN We need our government to support our buying a healthcare plan like we buy them. Aren't we all created equal? Don't we, as the wealthiest nation in the world, deserve it?

Linda Carlson MN I support CNHP

MINNESOTA Continued

- Tisha Buskala** MN I support CNHP
- Bernice Demenge** MN I support CNHP
- John Buskala Sr.** MN I support CNHP
- Joelyn Buskala** MN I support CNHP
- Joe Buskala** MN My vote is for CNHP.
- Diane Dodge** MN LONG OVERDUE!!
- Dalip Singh** MN **We need universal health insurance for all. The current system is flawed. The answer is one that is like the Canadian system or the European models where nobody needs to go bankrupt over a medical bill. Health care should be a right not a privilege.**
- Aaron Strong** MN America needs this program. There is no reason anyone should not have affordable health care. It is time for us to take care of our own people!
- Claire O'Connor** MN After living for 25 years in Canada, I know first hand that single payer tax supported health care is the only way.
- Mary Lund** MN It's about time!
- Russell Orr** MN I think this system is needed. I worry about the thousands of people employed by the insurance industry though.
- Jean Olson** MN It is a shame on our country that so many fall through the cracks of the health care system. It takes great courage for those in power to buck the system and go against the lobbyists and perhaps their own political parties.
- Lisa Heffernan** MN I am currently writing a proposal for a system of universal health care for a class.
- Adam Galas** MN America is the wealthiest nation on earth, and spends the most, per capita, on healthcare. Yet we have the 37th best system! We are literally pissing away vital healthcare funds while 18,000 people annually drop dead in the streets from lack of healthcare! Such a travesty must not be allowed to continue! HR676 would, virtually, overnight, place America on the path to truly possessing the world's finest healthcare system. Thus I call upon all Americans to rise and demand the quality of medical care that we can, and must have! I also call upon Betty McCullum, Representative of the 4th Congressional District of Minnesota, to support HR676 with all possible zeal.
- Joanne Buskala** MN Whether your 92 or 2, everyone should have the right to be healthy. If we, The United States Citizens, can afford to buy a good health care plan for our Congress, Senate, and our President for the rest of their lives. If we, The United States Citizens, can afford to buy healthcare for the citizens of Iraq. Why can't our Congress, Senators, and President let us, The United States Citizens, spend our money, and buy ourselves a healthcare plan equal to what we buy them, without having a third party (The Insurance Company CEO's) in there ripping us off?
- Billy Jo Demenge** MN I am a student, who does not make much money. I need HR676, along with everyone I go to school with. Vote "Yes!!!!!"
- Robert Demenge** MN Please vote yes to HR676, our country is desperate need of affordable healthcare for everyone.
- Deb Demenge** MN We are fighting to free Iraq from the clutches of the cruel and greedy. We need our Senators, Congressmen, and President, to fight for our freedom from the greedy insurance companies.
- Sally Flax** MN It is shameful that this richest country in the world does not provide health care for all our citizens. The present system is broken and must be changed. A single payer system provides a balance among sick and well citizens, making health care more affordable in a better delivery system.
- Allen Berg** MN what do we want health care for all when do we want it NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Anthony DeAngelis** MN Americans deserve health care for all, regardless of income status.

MINNESOTA Continued

Dan Heggen MN I am proud to be from the state of Minnesota, the same state that sent one of the greatest senators in the history of this country to Washington back in 1990, Paul Wellstone. One of Paul's dreams was to have a national healthcare system that left nobody out. He was a strong advocate of a single payer health insurance plan. Sadly he never lived to see the day when this right and noble cause could be realized. I hope I do, and am proud to add my name and my support to this petition to fight for what is right for all people.

Luella Greene MN Health care is a basic need. We are the world's richest and most powerful country. We can do it-provide health care for all or we can provide for the wealthiest to become even more wealthy-e.g. the insurance companies.

Carol Ashley MN This makes so much sense. It is so necessary for those millions who do not have health care insurance. It makes economic sense considering the large amount of money spent on administrative costs. It makes more sense than the "plan" talked about by the President, which can be shown to be ineffective. It's time to move to a system that covers all Americans, not just those who can afford it.

Bob and Joy Johnson MN The richest country in the world and we don't have universal healthcare is a shame. Other industrialized countries do at less the cost of the US.

Dan Endrizzi MN I sign this because I feel I have no choice. The current system is broken and the marketplace can't fix what is inherently NOT an economic decision. When my wife and I signed up for health insurance, we had 2 insurance companies to choose from, and one denied my wife coverage because she had been in an auto accident. Some choice! When my wife had a baby, she had a C-section and was in the hospital for less than a week - \$30,000 (about 15% out of pocket). When we use our HSA, we try not to go to the doctor in December, since January is a new billing cycle. I could go on, but you get the idea. Having said that, the government is NOT a panacea. The "corporate greed" will only be replaced by "bureaucratic mismanagement" (look at Medicare). When people say they want a health care system like Europe - beware - you might get what you want. All I can say is it has got the be better than costs that go up at 5X inflation and economic incentives to not make sensible health choices.

Kathy Auringer MN In our state due to cutbacks health care, humar services, education, and other good programs have been hurt so many are going without any health care. We are pleased though to know we're building a new stadium for the Minnesota Twins. All the legislators, senators and every other "politician" should lose all their benefits, including health care, until everyone has access to it. Not to mention health providers are padding bills and some are treating patients horribly whether they are insured or not!

Mike Bowser MN It is about time!

Joy and Bob Johnson MN Healthcare is a right, not a privilege. Even Cuba has Universal Single-Payer Healthcare for all!!!
People over profits!!!

Robin McKee MN Please Pass this Bill, We need health care Now!! Robin McKee

Steve Linnerooth MN If we have billions to squander on making war I don't want to hear how we can't afford healthcare.

Melissa Harry MN Health care is a fundamental human right; therefore it is critical we secure national health care coverage for all of our nation's citizens.

Elsa Fields MN It sounds great!

"Healthcare in America is only as good as what you can afford. No matter whether a drug industry executive or the president of the United States tells you 'we have the best healthcare system in the world,' the fact remains that America has a survival of the richest system where it is only the best if you can fork over the cash."

-David Sirota

MISSOURI

Michelle Hogan

MO Please think about the health of the people, or we will revolt.

Robert Recht

MO Without the insurance companies, who are the main blocking force for universal, single payer health care, we would have the likelihood of an economic boom. All businesses, almost freed of the enormous expense of employee health insurance under a single payer system, would be certain to invest the large amount of extra cash in new jobs, higher salaries, equipment, etc Exports would be lower priced expanding business of our exports further expanding jobs here. More jobs, more money in peoples' hands to spend. It's not if we had a boom economy but how big! Universal single payer health-care would put more money in peoples' hands because health insurance would be far less expensive leaving more for kids college, retirement savings, vacations, getting out of debt, clothes, furniture, boats, etc, etc. People will spend the extra money and live better as a result. We all benefit.

Meimei Huber

MO I am a registered nurse and a licensed clinical social worker. I am extremely concerned about our health care system in this country and the lack of access for many.

Meimei Huber

MO As a nurse and a social worker, I have seen up close what a great need we have in this country to provide health care to all our citizens. Please consider national health care.

Cheryl Kenter

MO It is sad that one of the largest and wealthy countries in the world today ranks 37th in health care of it's citizens... There is no reason that any American should have to choose between health care and food or a roof over their heads. The time has come for Universal Health Care for citizens who can't afford it or get it anywhere else can get this, even if on a sliding scale of income and number of members in a family. Here is your chance to fix this problem! Please pass this bill and fast. Children, the handicapped and mentally challenged need this, the middleclass and working poor need this.

Karen Payne

MO It just makes sense. I am really tired of big insurance companies and big drug companies controlling our healthcare

Roberta Batterton

MO We live in the richest country in the world - why is healthcare so limited?

Robert Recht

MO Health insurance companies are dangerous to your health. They are the chief opponents of nat'l, single payer healthcare. We must expose them at all cost. They are blocking congress with all their power. They are the real enemy of nat'l healthcare. We must use every tool we have to defeat them and our goal will be achieved.

Kathleen O'Bryan

MO Decisions are made by those who show up--- ge involved!

Miranda Polzer

I'm also Canadian-despite all the slack that we get from the U.S. re healthcare-it is just a ploy to hide that the system is INFINITELY better. I and many others have experienced it first hand! Nationalize healthcare, it's time that we became civilized.

James Hall

MO All government employees have good health care coverage and the american people should also.

Lincoln Justice

MO My first wife and I had to divorce--break up our family, so she could get health care at home or a nursing home. Our private insurance would not pay--only Medicaid.

Genevieve O'Hara

MO It is way past time to reform the health care system in the USA. All people should have access to health care, at least as good as Medicare, which does seem to work.

Eric Shipp

MO It's about time to cut out the bureaucratic nonsense and deal with issues that matter, our citizens! What good is a country that doesn't take care of it's citizens??? What does it matter that that the top 10 HMO's made 10.8 billion in profits for 2005 yet 40% of US citizens are either underinsured or have no insurance at all? Get real! I fully support HR-676.

Martha Alderson

MO Please make it possible for ALL Americans to have good health care by providing universal health care. Thank you!

Wesley Warden

MO when they increased my medicare premium and upped the deductibles also cut what medicare pays hospitals and doctors, this caused my medigap insurer to raise my medigap premium, so now I had to drop my medigap insurer. We must give the rich a tax cut.

Gary Roller

MO It is barbaric for the most modern nation ever to exist in history to provide less than third world care for some if its citizens. One republican president (T Roosevelt) wished health care for all and another (shall be unnamed) seems to care not for the citizens he was elected to serve. time for a change.

Anne Steele

MO Everyone in this country who wants it should have affordable health care!

MISSOURI Continued

Robert Recht MO We know the health insurers are blocking any single payer healthcare plan. They have brought misery to America. We know how they perpetuate their position-MONEY, BRIBERY! Any congress member who bows to them is not representative of their constituents. After Iraq, MoveOn will deal with healthcare with its 7 million members plus and growing. Our membership voted overwhelmingly on the importance of this issue to them and their families. Election 2008 is on the agenda and the #1 target.

Patricia Flynn MO Please support HR676 so new college graduates who will no longer be covered under their family insurance plans and do not yet have good paying jobs (and may never have a good paying jobs with health benefit!) can have access to their right to health care. It is so very frightening for parents to let their son's and daughter's graduate and loose the medical coverage that the parents have paid for years. What if they get in a car accident? Have a "flu" that requires hospitalization or decides to have a family of their own before they have health coverage??? It's just not right, these citizens are the educated young people that are going to be our Rocks in Society soon and we can't protect their health??? Please support heath care for all of us but especially for the next working generation. Thank you, Patty Flynn R.N.

Elaine Daly MO Something needs to done now.

Jay'Lynn Cullison MO As a working citizen I never knew the problems that the health care in this country had. Then I had to quit work due to health and no insurance. I spend most of my days in so much pain and no one to help. I feel like the government has turned its back on people like me and thousands maybe millions out there. How is it we can help other countries and can't help us? There is a real problem and anyone can be in this situation anyone! Open your eyes AMERICA and help change our laws. Help US to have the rights to get better which with out insurance seems to be impossible. JUST HELP Change the laws to care about people and not insurance companies.

Melinda Gerardy MO As a hospital bedside nurse, I continually am made aware of the cost of patients who cannot afford the medication and follow up that we so carefully teach them. Repeat hospitalizations are expensive to all of us.

GEORGIA THOMAS MO GREAT JOB!!! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! GEORGIA

Eric von Schrader MO To those who say that single payer is politically impossible in the U.S.: If not now, when? If not us, who?

Faith Ann Robinson MO It is time for something like this.

Diana Oleskevich MO Health care is a basic human right.

Paula Brown MO My friend cashed in his life insurance policy to help pay for his medicine during the past 2 years. He had sold his house and was living in a trailer in order to help with medical costs. His only daughter found him dead at home this past week:end. He had no life insurance to cover his funeral/burial costs. He was only in his 50's. Too young to die. His medical problem started with back surgery. What a shame.

Melanie Shouse MO The time is NOW for universal health care!

Wayne Baldwin MO We need SPS of HC in the US... we spend more money than any other country on the planet and we get LESS for our dollars!

Debra Cichon MO I am a single mom with no insurance and poor health, it would be nice to be able to take care of myself so I can take care of my children

Cheryl Kenter MO It is sad that one of the largest and wealthy countries in the world today ranks 37th in health care of it's citizens... There is no reason that any American should have to choose between health care and food or a roof over their heads. The time has come for Universal Heath Care for citizens who can't afford it or get it anywhere else can get this, even if on a sliding scale of income and number of members in a family. Here is your chance to fix this problem! Please pass this bill and fast. Children, the handicapped and mentally challenged need this, the middleclass and working poor need this.

Robert Henry MO it's going to be up to "we the people" to get anything done although I have a glimmer of hope now with the new congress.

Martha Scheer MO This would be less money than what we pay now and everyone would be covered. It is long overdue!

MISSOURI Continued

- Jeannie Breeze** MO It's time for health care for everyone!
- Robert Kemper** MO I have been retired for just three years and already see health insurance eroding my income.
- Matthew Taylor** MO In a addition to those who have no health coverage there are those who are insured and cannot use it for the increase in copayments and the restrictions the insurance companies put on our health care. I remember being a child and being able to go the doctor or dentist as a child. My child has six cavities and has not had a check up in over three years, he is 5, since I have not had insurance. Now that I do, I am not sure how I can afford the extra payments the insurance company demands for even using the insurance. Please wake up and realize this not just a country to serve the wealthy. It is our country and we want it back.
- Faith Ann Robinson** MO It is time that the United States enters the twenty-first century regarding health care and stop promoting and subsidizing the pharmaceutical companies and HMO's.
- Marilee Martin** MO An issue OWL advocates strongly. The US is the only developed nation in the world that doesn't guarantee health care as a right of citizenship. The US ranks 23rd in infant mortality, with St. Louis having one of the highest rates in the country.
- Cynthia Richards** MO It is a disgrace that the richest country in the world--with the most sophisticated health care in the world--does not recognize a responsibility to provide health care for all who reside within its borders. Health care is a fundamental right, not a reward for the wealthy. Let's show the world that we can do the right thing.
- Nancy Buechler** MO Everyone deserves the same health insurance provided to members of Congress
- Judy Gibson** MO My husband taught in the public schools for 40 years and retired after teaching the last 24 of them in Florida. Our health insurance through the Florida Teacher's Retirement system costs him all but \$400 of his retirement benefit. We wonder how long we will be able to afford health insurance.
- Nancy Buechler** MO Everyone deserves the same health insurance provided to members of Congress
- Joan Kernebeck** MO Please do the right thing! Vote for this health care program.
- Diana Oleskevich** MO Stop the insurance companies from making a profit on our children's health care.
- Jeanette Langton** MO OUR HEALTHCARE KEEPS GETTING REDUCED, NOT ENHANCED. WE NEED TO MOVE BEYOND THE THIRD WORLD NATIONS AND PROVIDE FOR ALL OF OUR CITIZENS.
- S. H. Salois** MO My family recently went over a year without health care coverage, and it was terrifying. Because of my son's allergies, we were unable to afford private insurance. My husband has Graves' Disease, so no private insurer would cover him at all.
- Guorri Hugo** MO I would like to wish you much luck. And a lot of money. Thank you.
- Louis Wheat** MO I'd like to see a comprehensive bill to reduce the cost of medicine related to the huge damage law suits, and enforcement of the medical society to police itself for the negligent and ill-trained doctors who are the cause of so many of the deaths which occur annually in our hospitals. If the judgments passed in malpractice suits were limited to care of the person affected, and not these excessive punitive judgments, the cost of medical care would decline because doctors would no longer have to order every diagnostic test available just to prove that they did. Also, force the insurance carriers to keep their reserves in safe stable investments rather than in the stock market where huge losses meant the insurance raised premiums not due to casualty losses, but to make up for investment losses. Lets get the lobbyists out of Washington and especially the drug co lobbies.
- Diana Oleskevich** MO Health care is a basic human right; the US government should fulfill that for every citizen.
- Rose McLarney** MO Health Care is a right of every american. Treat the unfortunate with dignity.
- Pat Murphy** MO Inequalities in US health care are an embarrassment to our "civilized" society. However, I believe it is only ONE SYMPTOM of a deeper poison that pervades in our government. I do not have a clue as to HOW to make universal health coverage work, but agree that it is needed. Maybe "curing" the health care problem will give us courage to attack the deeper "infections"!

MISSISSIPPI

Benjamin Chance

MS We help everyone else in the world why can't we help our American citizens

Waynette Baker

MS Americans would be a lot healthier and happier if we ALL had health insurance. Rich people shouldn't be the only one's with good health benefits.

Estela Kanade

MS When we are sick, we suffer three times over- from the effects of the illness itself on our bodies, from the stress of not being able to earn due to illness, and from the mental anguish over mounting copays and bills that keep coming in the mail even as we are ill. It is right and just for us all to fund universal health care during our healthy years and for it to fund all during sickness- we Americans are compassionate, we are told we go to war for human rights, and we have religious conservatives running our country. It not morally right for insurance company and HMO Board of Directors and stockholders to take our monies while we're healthy, then drop us when we can't give anymore, with them raising their premiums and copays year after year without fail. The moment is here for universal health care, single-payer- humanitarian, non-profit, funded, yet respectful of our choice of your own health care providers. We need you and I and we can do it! God will help. Have faith.

Larry T

MS I am in full support of this bill. It's time to give Americans the health care they need.

Estela Kanade

MS **The sick suffers three times over- from the pains of the ailment, from the money lost paying medical bills/copayments, and from the inability to work/earn money due to the ailment. We have the opportunity to relieve these sufferings with Medicare for All!!! Universal health care is a human right!!!**

Inda T

MS We want universal health care now!

Megan Tate

MS Please pass this bill. It's only fair to the millions of Americans who wake up every day not knowing what they'll do if they are forced to seek medical attention. Also, there are probably a lot of disabled people who would love to be able to get out of the house and work, but know that they can't afford to because they will lose their Medicaid, which they desperately need if they have a terminal illness, or physical or mental handicap. It's not fair for people in the "beacon of freedom" to have to be afraid to seek medical attention for fear of losing their house and everything they own because they can't pay the bills. Congress should stand by the constitution our forefathers laid out long ago and do what is in the best interest for the people of America, which is universal health care now!

Donald Baker

MS This is long overdue. Americans should be able to get health care when it is needed without fearing bankruptcy, jail, or worse because they need to see a doctor. Insure everyone equally, no matter what!

MONTANA

Elizabeth Guiles

MT In this community, one of the poorest in Montana, which is #49 for per capital income in the country, there are many people who simply do not go to the doctor because they have to feed their children instead. We should not have to make that kind of choice in a country this rich!

Edward Folkwein

MT **Obtaining healthcare when I changed vocations was a nightmare! I am mostly healthy person who watches my diet, exercises in spite of depression and sleep apnea. Getting affordable healthcare was almost impossible. Let's change now so available health insurance is affordable for all.**

Rosemary Fust

MT It is WAY past time for a national health care program.

Mary Dubay

MT Saves money, makes sense, and helps us all--what's not to like?

Soni Fleury

MT This must be done!

NEBRASKA

Alan Lemke
started, and keep it up.

NE It's long, long past time for the United States to establish a national health care program, so get

Sarah Thrasher **NE My neighbors in our low-income neighborhood use the city's emergency services as their primary healthcare provider. It costs approximately \$400 per ambulance ride, and at least \$200 per ER visit, we pay for that out of our taxes. A nationalized health care system would eliminate much of the need for these costly services - talk about a tax break!**

Pamela Moses NE It is time that all people can get adequate health care without paying through the nose for it. Our son would like to come ranch with us and the insurance or lack of it is causing concerns.

Miriam Null NE It is high time we got the insurance companies out of the health provider business. Time to cut out the high salaries paid to the CEOs of such carriers and HMOs--this would save a tremendous amount of money and put health care back in the hands of doctors, where it belongs.

John W. "Hai" Knapp NE I am a folk singer/songwriter concerned about healthcare. 4 songs about healthcare. For subject of my 2 most recent songs, Janelle and the Dyersburg Man the lack of insurance was the DEATH SENTENCE. Our healthcare system is a national disgrace. Whether we go to single-payer, or can somehow repair our broken system it must alleviate the threat that if you lost your job you loose your insurance. Must end the pre-existing business; that is discrimination, every bit as much if a black man fails to get his promotion because he's black. Must be affordable; if not affordable it is not available. AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE IS A RIGHT; NOT JUST A PRIVILEGE FOR THE RICH

Wendy Royalty-Hann NE Let's get it done!!

Matthew Bosley, M.D. NE I am a physician, a pediatrician, and I am professionally and morally invested in providing the best possible future for our children and their children. Doing so--now--is critical for the survival of our society. [Yes...it really is that serious.] Foremost, providing universal quality health care for everyone, not tied to employment or financial status, is necessary and cannot be postponed any longer. The physical health and the financial well-being of you, me, and our children and grandchildren are at risk.

FRED NGUYEN NE IT IS TIME TO HAVE UNIVERSAL COVERAGE, SINGLE PAYER SYSTEM AND ELEIMINATE GREED FROM PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES AND INSURANCE COMPANIES

Maureen Garvey NE This is an idea that is long past due. It is ridiculous that the United States should have such a sorry excuse for a health care system. We should be able to take the best of our model, and the best of the European and Canadian models, and create the best health care system the world has ever seen. We put a man on the moon-we can do this!

Joanne Landy **NE Now is the time to bring together the uninsured, the underinsured, and the insecurely insured (which is just about everyone who is insured) to liberate ourselves from the stranglehold of the private, for-profit health insurance companies. We need to assure comprehensive, quality, affordable national health insurance for all!**

NEW HAMPSHIRE

William Todd NH My new House Representative, Carol Shea-Porter, campaigned on a 'Medicare for all' platform, but for some reason has not yet co-sponsored H.R.676. I have contacted her office multiple times urging her to (and most recently asking why she apparently felt unable to), but without response - in marked contrast to her predecessor and our two current Senators, who invariably responded promptly to contacts from constituents. My family is fortunate: we still have insurance coverage, though (as with so many others) can't be certain that this will always be the case. But we feel that in a country with the resources that ours has there is no excuse whatsoever for failing to provide guaranteed reasonable levels of health care for *all* - not just as a 'right', but because it makes hard-nosed economic sense (business suffers the costs of health-care inefficiencies as well, and variations in employer support for health care significantly reduce the liquidity of the labor market). We'd be willing to put our tax money behind this belief if necessary; the fact that this could be accomplished *without* raising net expenditure on the system is icing on the cake. Those who have some specific fault to find with H.R.676 as it stands should stop sitting on the sidelines and work with its current proponents to achieve something they can all support: substantive progress on this issue is already long overdue.

PATRICIA BEARY NH WE NEED GOOD HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS

NEW HAMPSHIRE Continued

Peter Skjold NH I'm on a board for a community healthcare center and we are constantly trying to obtain money to provide quality services to the many patients who need care that will enable them to have healthy and productive lives. Most modern countries pride themselves in the quality of their healthcare to their citizens as they know that this ensures a benefit to all of its people.

JP Parl Doran I am all for "Not-for-profit, single payer universal health care"

Deborah Sumner NH I'm almost 59, looking for work and without insurance. I have glaucoma that needs treatment, but other than that I hope I can stay healthy. What about all those people like me who need health care and can't afford it?

Dan Carr NH The lack of a single payer healthcare system in our country will lead to more and more decline in the competitiveness of our businesses and our society. The few who benefit, such as Health Insurance executives and companies are setting an undue burden on our entire economy. The usual objections concerning choice and timing are false manipulations of the public's fears. Most people have to wait as long a time for procedures now as they might under a single payer system. Many people have prescribed service providers already. The great majority of people already accept these limits to obtain the care they need. Let's stop listening to the paid lobbyists and start responding to the needs of 45 million Americans who are being shut out of our Healthcare system.

Carolyn Sawyer NH Everyone should have access to health care

Mary Lee Sargent NH I have always believed in a National Health Care system intellectually. After breaking my leg seriously in Scotland in March, 2003 and being cared for by the National Health Service of Lothian in Edinburgh, I am committed viscerally. I had fantastic care during my 12 day hospital stay. And hospitalization, surgery and treatment that would have cost \$30,000 or more in the U.S. was given to me, a US citizen and tourist at no charge. I truly believe that being free of financial worry and stress at times of serious illness and injury helps promote healing. I am eager to pay taxes for a National Health System so that residents of the U.S. and foreign visitors can have the kind of care I received in Scotland and not have to go into long-term debt or bankruptcy to pay for it. It is time that we joined the rest of the developed world and many in the developing nations who provide for the health and well being of their people.

Jeanne Bartlett NH All should be treated and helped to understand their contribution to their own well being.

William Jack NH Signed by a conservative Republican who is a member of the RNC

Kelly D'Errico NH We can't afford not to!!! Keep up the good work!!

Kelly D'Errico NH The time is NOW! Please support this petition~!

Deborah Sumner NH Leave no uninsured person behind.

Judy Jones is democracy if it doesn't care about those in need?

Mary Lee Sargent NH Millions of our children are uninsured. More and more working adults are losing their health care. We are one of the few developed nations not to insure all of our people. And according to a recent ranking 59 countries' on the condition of women, the US ranked 42nd for health and well-being. A national healthcare system would change these terrible statistics.

NEW JERSEY

Jason Bowen NJ In New Jersey if a person has a serious illness and little or no money they are forced into the welfare system and are told if they make over two hundred and ten dollars a month they cut off your medicaid benefits. This is simply unjust! We need a national healthcare system NOW!

Frank Buono NJ It's about time

James Pope NJ Single payer works. It's time we had it here in the U.S.

NEW JERSEY Continued

- Carol Shannon** Good, It's about time.
- Judith Johnson** NJ Everyone should have health care - its the peoples right!
- Alan Levin** NJ The has come for universal health care, free, to become part of our Bill of Rights. The war to be fought these days is against the ills that imperilso many millions in our nation.
- Joel Roi Aronowitz** NJ My company is a Medicaid and Medicare provider of durable medical equipment for individuals with disabilities. We try to make available desperately needed technology for people with conditions such as ALS (Lou Gerhig's Disease), people who cannot afford to wait out the time-wasting tactics that insurance companies regularly employ. We all suffer in one way or another from the inefficient health care system as it currently exists, but for the folks with congenital or acquired conditions that I deal with daily, this suffering is routinely elevated to tragic proportions. Funding is rarely approved without a fight, and then it is often under paid. Add to this the cost of a health plan for my tiny company's employees and we are just getting by, swimming against the current. If we lost this battle, there is no other competitor in our area that could provide the same essential services we now provide. While this might suit the insurance companies, it would be bad news for the population we serve. **INSURANCE COMPANIES SHOULD HAVE NO BUSINESS IN HEALTH CARE!**
- Valerie Sauer** NJ I have practiced as a Registered Nurse for 27 yrs. The decline in access to healthcare and in the quality of healthcare is directly related to the current profit driven system. Until the profit is removed from healthcare the downward spiral will continue eventually affecting everyone. America's indifference toward humanity is well known the world over. Adopting a universal healthcare system would be a great beginning towards reversing our tarnished reputation.
- Timothy Dunn** NJ A more effective and affordable national health care plan/policy is possible and should be a priority for the USA.
- Loralynn Schwarz** NJ I don't know why it is taken this country so long to get any kind of insurance coverage. I think it's about time for the government to help the people of the USA.
- James Anderson** NJ We need to take care of the health of our citizens ---period. A lifetime of work can be destroyed by one chronic illness, leaving one little choice but to declare bankruptcy.
- Kim Martin-Widawsky** NJ "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and most inhumane" Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.1966
- Susan M. Coke** NJ I am one of the 45 million who can no longer afford the cost of health insurance. This is the most important economic issue of our time.
- Sheri Robertson** NJ THANK GOD I FOUND THIS WEB SITE! I've w ritten everyone I could think of for help. I'm a Domestic Violence survivor. Hard as that is to get out of, it's no wonder to me why women return to the abuser. THERE'S NO HELP! My teeth are rotting, painfully from my head because of years of neglect. Nobody cares. I'm 38 years old and I worked hard since I was 15 years old. I came from money and my ex-husband took it all. So I turn to my country, who my father said was the greatest, AND THERE IS NO HELP. I have to suffer with painful arthritis & absessed teeth. OH MY GOD!!!!
- John Woodland** NJ It's time for our government to start working for us instead of against us. Recent amendments to the bankruptcy laws make it harder for individuals saddled with extraordinary medical expenses to start over but easier for business to avoid health benefits they promised their employees in return for their services. At least Congress has figured out that the cost of health care has become a problem for American business.
- Dorothy Schwartz** NJ It is the right of everyone living in this country to have access to good health care.
- Michael Trillo** NJ It's about time!
- Jane Franklin** NJ Health care is the most important right that should belong to all the people of this country (and, for that matter, the world). It is outrageous that our wealthy country has people who cannot afford health care. Please change this!

NEW JERSEY Continued

Marvin Gutkin NJ It's high time that we stopped dealing with healthcare in dribs and drabs. We add plan A to cover a few thousand people then add plan B to cover a few thousand more. That makes things so complex that nobody can keep track of who has what coverage for which doctors. What we need is a single plan that covers everybody for all medically related care (medical, dental, prescription drugs, long term care). That care should be financed by a single payer. That payer should be the federal government. I would be willing to pay additional taxes for such a plan. I would think that the majority of the American people would also be willing. Such a plan has been proposed in HR 676. Please give this bill your full support.

Lauren Russell-Pank NJ The HMOs find every opportunity they can to deny payment for procedures that are necessary, even when the patient is covered. Sometimes it is like "Alice Through the Looking Glass" when dealing with it. Most expensive procedures are not elective. Emergency procedures should be covered.

Bettie Reina NJ If our Congress can not provide all the American people with a healthcare plan such as proposed by HR 676 we will need to replace those members of Congress who are opposed to it. It can be done and we can afford it.

Debra Goldberg NJ Congressman Andrews... Get on board. Imagine if you had no job to pay for your health insurance...imagine what's to come when your children can't get jobs that cover their healthcare.

George Carroll NJ We need a Canadian or European style National Health care system immediately. It's that simple!

Eddie Konczal NJ Please recall that "A Healthcare System that Works for Everyone" was part of your 6-point agenda for the 2006 election. Please keep your promise to make health care affordable for all Americans.

Kitty Miller NJ **I am a wife, mother and registered nurse employed as a school nurse in Camden, NJ, the poorest city in the nation. It is a national disgrace that in the United States, one of the wealthiest countries on earth, there are over 46 million uninsured and underinsured citizens, including most of the working poor families I serve and my own children, three hardworking young adults who are students in graduate school . They are unable to be covered under my husband and my health insurance policies, without us paying outrageously high premiums and are unable to afford the high premiums that any quality health insurance would provide for them. Health care is a basic human right, not a commodity and it is long overdue that it be given the highest priority on any legislative agenda. Please do not be influenced by the pharmaceutical and insurance industries but listen to your constituents and support H.R. 676**

Mary Anne Nesbit NJ We, the citizens of the USA, should be outraged and ashamed of our healthcare (not!) system where millions go without and the almighty dollar is all that is important.

Michael Texeira NJ We demand Single payer universal Health care now. It's a basic human right which no man, woman or child should be without in this, or any country. I and members of my organization will only support elected officials who support this basic right for Americans. Do it NOW.

Felix Gosse NJ This is the only way to do it. We have to come together and create our own reality.

David Way NJ Our time has come to join the rest of the world. Access to the best health care is a right, not a privilege.

Katherine G. Miller NJ I am a registered nurse practicing as a school nurse in the inner city. I have also experienced catastrophic illness in my family. Although my family was able to recover from it financially, many of the families I work with would not be able to. A single payer system in this country is the only fair and just way for all our citizens to receive their basic human right of accessible, affordable health care.

Leslie Rudnick NJ Pass it. It's about time

Kevin Velez NJ People over profits!

Sofyan Embik NJ As a modern society, health care should not be a privilege. We should have the right to live.

Robert Scardapane NJ The time has come for a real solution. Fifty years of patch work fixes have resulted in a health care crisis. We need to start on a single-payer system now!

NEW JERSEY Continued

- Elaine Bobrove** NJ It is a crime against humanity to use weapons to kill people and, at the same time, to deny basic health care to all your people.
- Claude Coleman Jr.** NJ This is a basic fundamental human right, and a civil liberty that has been forsaken for the interests of commerce!
- Theresa Guerriere** NJ This is a necessity!!
- Bill Kane** NJ It is time we change our thinking on healthcare. It should be thought of as a Human Right, not a commodity or a benefit.
- Richard Giovanoni** NJ Quality universal health care is a basic human right.
- Terry Hasan** NJ Universal healthcare is long overdue in this country!
- Marvin Gutkin** NJ With Single Payer Healthcare: Everyone can have coverage. People can chose doctors based on health considerations, not financial considerations. People can have coverage for Long Term Care. US corporations can shed their tremendous burden of paying for employee healthcare. This will make them more competitive. This will reduce the flow of jobs overseas. Doctors can spend their time dealing with patients and not with insurance companies.
- Elaine Shinbrot** NJ Any diddling (like the Bush fraudulent proposal) is a waste of energy. The shame of the US's being last of all the industrialized nations to recognize that health care is a right is disgusting. Single payer NOW is the only correct answer!
- Marvin Gutkin** NJ **This bill is a no brainer. Consumer costs are out of control. Business costs to cover their employees are also out of control. Yet even with all of the costs our healthcare system is nowhere close to where it should be. Many nations have better healthcare then we do, yet they pay a lot less. Why do doctors' offices have huge staffs, just to handle the paperwork? Why do insurance companies make a fortune off of out back? Why are so many people without coverage? In addition to those without medical coverage, almost everyone has no long term care coverage other than Medicaid. And in order to get Medicaid they must impoverish themselves. It's time to end our ridiculous system and switch to a system that makes sense. HR676 is an excellent start towards that system.**
- Terry Alaimo** NJ It's about time!!!! My daughter and son-in-law are paying \$1100.00 per month for family coverage. This does not include any co-pays or deductibles. My son-in-law was laid off and this is his COBRA amount, my daughter works in a small business that can't afford any health care coverage.
- Donald Klingler** NJ The President's plan does not address the major problems with our healthcare system and in fact it will prolong them. The non-profit group Physicians for a National Healthcare Program (PNHP) correctly points out: 1. Out of control costs due to Insurance companies: "The U.S. spends twice as much as other industrialized nations on health care, \$7,129 per capita. Yet our system performs poorly in comparison and still leaves 46 million without health coverage and millions more inadequately covered. This is because private insurance bureaucracy and paperwork consume one-third (31 percent) of every health care dollar. Streamlining payment through a single nonprofit payer would save more than \$350 billion per year, enough to provide comprehensive, high-quality coverage for all Americans." <http://www.pnhp.org/> 2. Inadequate coverage: A recent study by Harvard Medical School showed that between the years 1980 and 2006, medical bankruptcies increased by a whopping 2200%! This accounts for over 50% of the personal bankruptcies in the United States every year, but the real dirty little secret is that 75% of those who were forced into bankruptcies had medical insurance! The coverage from the private insurers was insufficient to cover the costs. 3. Insurance companies "risk management" will leave millions still uninsured: As a recent article in the LA Times pointed out, private insurers are "cherry picking" individuals that they will insure. They reject people routinely now for "preexisting conditions" as simple as hemorrhoids, childhood asthma, and mild hypertension. As the article went on to point out: "A 2004 health industry survey Girion cited said 12% of applicants for individual policies were turned down. Luke believes it's closer to 40%. "I can't think of any other business," he said, "where people have money in their hand to buy a product, and you can't sell it to them." <http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/la-oe-morrison4jan04,0,1198210.column?coll=la-opinion-righttrail> No one can call themselves a moral person and not support a single payer healthcare system. I strongly support H.R. 676 to end the thousands of needless deaths that are resulting from our current healthcare system.

NEW MEXICO

- Linda Lillow** NM Only genuine non-profit health care that eliminates profit, advertising, bureaucracy and waste, can make health care truly affordable for the majority of people - it makes no sense to leave a human necessity like health care to the market - buying what you can afford may not equate to what you need, and the alternative is leaving some people to suffer and die so that others can profit - it's immoral.
- Dennis Burton** NM Healthcare for EVERYONE NOW!!!!
- Rosemarie Cowan** NM As the model "most progressive nation in the world" we should have had it before now. Please let's do it!!
- Harriette Lawler** NM Americans must end this national disgrace. We have a cruel and inhumane healthcare situation in our country. The present system is already on its way out. Very soon, the insurance companies will have no customers (except for the wealthy). Even some corporations are now calling for national healthcare.
- Jim Caffrey** NM It works. It's affordable. Why aren't we doing it?
- Patricia berry** NM This is thirty years overdue. the current situation is abhorrent and too many people are suffering from having no health care coverage. Our emergency rooms are overwhelmed by those seeking help for themselves and their children. Please pass this legislation.
- Prof. Linda Sumption** NM It's time to come out of the dark ages and provide our people with health care. The idea that only some people deserve such care is obviously stupid and cruel. Also, it's obvious that we could finance such a plan. The day of the inefficient, short-sighted health insurance company era should pass. Isn't America supposed to be about innovation?
- Lois Opalesky** NM This government is supposed to be for the people. All the people, not just the rich. We the people want health care coverage for ALL.
- Barbara Agenbroad** NM I am a retired federal employee with good health insurance. However, I still support HR 676. It is time that all citizens have access to good health care. My future vote will go only to legislators and other candidates who have the courage to change our health care system from a market-driven system that enriches insurance companies to a system that ensures health care to everyone.
- Eric Jantz** NM Health care is a human right. It should not be subordinated to profit motive. Until the profit motive is taken out of health care, millions will continue to suffer.
- Robin DesJardins** NM This Plan is long overdue and very welcome to a fifty year old, returning college student such as myself. I have been unemployed for over ten years. I have no recourse to decent medical care through an HMO, or other senseless and useless paths like those. Thank you for thinking of older, single citizens! Robin L. DesJardins
- Mary Oishi** NM Why are our politicians so afraid of America becoming a social democracy? Most of our allies have had this system for many decades. Is it because the lion's share of our national treasure is going to the corrupt and obscenely wasteful black hole of what a former Pentagon analyst calls the "military/industrial/congressional complex"??? It's time we became a human-centered society.
- Georg Cocron** NM Insurance plans in the U.S. should provide some coverage for psychological counseling.
- Kevin Klejwa** NM National health care is my top voting priority.
- Sheilah Galer** NM It should be a right to have healthcare. It is sad that USA can pay for an unjust war and not healthcare. The majority of people do not have access to healthcare and when they are able to meet with a doctor their illness has progressed. It costs more this way and impacts families, elders, children and the working poor. I encourage you to vote for this healthcare bill. As a social worker I vote and am involved with politics.
- Barry Abel** NM Serious questions have been raised about the funding of social security/medicare/medicaid and global warming is already having significant effects that will increase in the years ahead. The combination of threats makes it imperative that our government act NOW to establish a national healthcare system that provides care for everyone. The millions who cannot afford health insurance today will see their numbers swelled overwhelmingly should the economy suffer because of the multiple threats already stressing it. The time to move to guarantee the health of the American people is now. Right now. I support

NEW MEXICO Continued

Shanon Brendlinger NM I work with people who do not have access to health care or who receive state funded health care. I see the poor services they receive and the limited access they have to mental health services and dental care. The population most hurt by this is the children.

Linda Gonzales NM yes, we all need healthcare NOW!! Not 5 years from now. We already pay for it, so give it to all. So we too can be proud to be in America, and are secure from the monster oh being without health care

Terry Schleder NM Thank you!

GEORGE COVER NM **OUR PRESIDENT AND CONGRESSMEN AND WOMEN SHOULD HANG THEIR HEADS IN SHAME. AND I AM SPEAKING OF BOTH SIDES OF THE HOUSE!**

NEW YORK

Mario Ulloa NY heath care is very important for all americans.

Marcy Gordon NY Everyone deserves health care!

Tamara Wynn NY I agree 100% with this petition for better health care.

Georgina Cestero NY I am long retired and have no money to offer but I can contribute some time. Good work.

Carola Burroughs NY I am one of the many uninsured, and strongly support this initiative.

Jessica Honikman NY We should all be asking our elected officials to stop taking corporate donations. Only then, when they owe no political favors, will they be free to do the right thing.

Dianne Hagan NY **My twin daughters are trying to pursue dance careers in NYC and cannot get affordable health care. They make just dollars over the salary limit for programs like Healthy NY.**

Bobbi N NY PLEASE MAKE THIS HAPPEN FOR EVERYONES SAKE

Donna Ricci NY This is a good way to do this health plan.

George Marshall NY I think this is a good idea.

wa.shalee@verizon.net NY It is a crime that the richest nation in the world doesn't support healthcare for all of its citizens.

John M. McDonagh NY National health care is long overdue, but perhaps its time has come.

Tracey Jordan NY Americans don't want to pay the 60% tax it would take to have a National Health Care Plan, like Canada. American's don't think we are ever gonna get sick, old and need medical coverage until it's too late. Plan now, plan ahead!

Martha Rosler NY The insurance companies are eating up far too man of our health care dollars including the money spent on over the top bureaucratic requirements for recipients & providers.

Kathy Knight NY **I am sickened by the fact that I pay more and more for premiums with less and less coverage each year. My husband had a successful kidney transplant six years ago. In September 2006 he had a hernia repair. Just six years later, the cost of the hernia repair was almost the same as the transplant! Our government needs to realize that our current health care system is broken beyond repair.**

David Stecker NY Justice must prevail.

David Sing NY In time, we must accomplish FREE Universal Healthcare.

- Gary Whaley** NY I believe It is time to formally adopt a comprehensive high quality, publicly funded National Health Insurance Program, equitably available to all United States residents.
- Marieanna Elliott** NY It's about time we start acting like the richest country in the world, and start providing affordable healthcare for all our citizens rich and poor.
- Katharine Wyland** NY Hurray!
- Jack Kashinsky** NY Why are we the only major industrialized country in the world without Single Payer Universal health care?
- Zoe Zidbeck** NY Medicaid's overhead is much less than commercial healthcare's. It's another one of those things that seems to be a natural monopoly. Perhaps the courts will rule however, that you can't tell someone how to spend their health care dollars & it'll have to be voluntary. Certainly socialized prevention & testing. federally subsidized coop health care.
- Jim Ryan** NY we need quality universal healthcare if its god enough for the politicians [who could well afford to buy their own] its good enough for all of us including hardworking low wage workers who cant afford to buy their own especially at the prices the greedy insurance companies charge, high profiting companies like Wal-Mart refuse to pay health coverage as well
- Gill Brociner** NY National health insurance coverage and a single payer health system is a vital necessity, along with being pure and simple common sense! It is also important that health care focus on prevention and complementary, healing mind-body-spirit modalities of treatment.
- Pamela Wax** NY This is the richest country in the world. It is embarrassing that so many of our citizens go without health insurance. Per a 60 Minutes segment this past week regarding the undue charges incurred for emergency care by the uninsured, I am even more outraged by the inequities of our system. Healthcare - NOW!
- Dr. Harriet Fraad** NY Our healthcare system is a sham. We desperately need a Canadian system. As a doctor, I cannot see people who need me.
- Kimberly Steinhorn** NY Getting public schools and teaching unions on board with this initiative will make a large impact in the movement.
- Robert Carloss** NY This bill has by complete support, and, I dearly hope, the support of all of my Congressional Representatives!
- Susan Lawrence** NY This need for this bill is paramount! As a 10 year breast cancer surgery survivor I cannot imagine the additional pain and stress I would have experienced had I been discharged the same day! I was fortunate enough at that time to have a 3-day stay. PLEASE support this very important bill.
- Lynn Longo-Routier** NY we are far too overdue in this regard
- Vivian Kavanaugh** NY I reviewed what little detail is available on the Mass. Health Insurance. It sounds like another windfall for the insurance industry. Another joke like the "Medicare D". Please pas s H.R. 676 before we laugh ourselves to death 49 more times
- David Heyer** NY Bush has made a really lame proposal that help insurance companies rather than helping the people that health care. All right thinking people need to get behind H.R. 676 to provide health care to all. We need this Bill passed.
- Tibor Weinreb** NY It is great that there are so many cosigners of this bill. I think this bill has a good chance of passing in the next few years.
- Bertram Miller** NY Friends whose Medicaid once easily covered multiple prescriptions are now desperately seeking the means to pay for prescriptions when they hit the donut-hole. Even if they manage to pay for their drugs, they are left destitute. This will be the fate of millions more of us unless we fight for & win a single-payer national health insurance program.
- Artie Alfreds** NY I work in the health care field, and am aware of this issue painfully every day
- Lisa Cohen** NY Health Care should be universal for all citizens! Enough already!

Leslie G Kimmel NY There is enough money in this country for every citizen to be housed, fed, educated and cared for ... but the politicians don't see it that way. Instead of Power to the People ... with Liberty and Justice for all.... it's power to the rich, and even more power to the politicians. It's time we took a stand and fight for what we rightfully deserve. CNHP NOW! Yes!

Kevin D Cummings NY I ask that you would do what is right for the health and well being of the United States and its citizens. HR-676 is a just bill that should be passed!

Jack Kashinsky NY Why are we the only major industrialized country in the world without what HR 607 proposes? Why do American's have to go to Canada for their medication? And why are you continuing to allow the Special Interest Lobbies to have their way, which is contrary to the needs of your constituents?

Giovanna Lepore NY Universal single-payer Health care insurance is the decent thing to do for one another not endless warfare!

Mark Milano NY We must stop the obscene price-gouging of the pharmaceutical industry! It's essential to have drug price controls if we are ever to control healthcare costs in the U.S.

Heloise Rathbone NY I know so many people without insurance. My daughter has been under my health insurance for many years but I am retiring and going on Medicare and my daughter needs to go on Medicaid. However, I know many doctors don't take Medicaid patients and I don't want her to have to change the doctors who have known her so long. We need Health Care NOW!! I am praying that we will pass R676 very soon.

Ron Moss NY It is time.

Susan Susman NY Let's cut out the middleman and eliminate profit as an element in health care.

Wesley Stromberg NY I am a senior citizen on a limited income and with multiple physical problems as the body succumbs to aging. I am appalled that Medicare does not cover dental, foot care, hearing problems and even limits medicare coverage of items such as refraction by the eye doctor and urinalysis by the gynecologist. What is going on? We need a truly universal coverage as outlined by Kucinich and Conyers, not the inadequate proposals of the other presidential candidates. Are they afraid of the powerful insurance companies which stand to gain billions of dollars from our medicare allotments?

Doug Bullock NY Over 47 million people in the US do not have health insurance. Our for profit health system operates to maximize profits while minimizing health care. The CLC's and Area Labor Federation AFL-CIO have endorsed HR 676 along with the Labor/Religion Coalition, Democracy for America, Working Families Party and other groups in the Albany NY area. SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE NOW!!

Thomas J Rowan NY I was forced out of my position as Director of Spiritual Care at a Bronx nursing home due to the fact that health insurance premiums increased and the administrations unwillingness to pay. They do not realize why the premiums went up nor the impact on employees like me who will lose all health and dental benefits 9/31/05 after losing my job 8/31/05. One more uninsured.

Mary van Valkenburg NY Health care for all should be our country's top priority this year. It is an abomination that so many of our people can't get the care they need. Please, please, please change this now.

DALE LAURIN NY HEALTH CARE IS THE RIGHT OF EVERY AMERICAN. IT'S UNJUST THAT ANYONE IN OUR RICH LAND HAS TO WORRY ABOUT PAYING DOCTOR AND HOSPITAL BILLS WHEN HE OR SHE IS SICK. IT'S SHAMEFUL THE PROFESSION'S NO. 1 PRIORITY ISN'T PROVIDING QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR ALL BUT PROFITS FOR STOCKHOLDERS & CEOS. GETTING RID OF THE TOTALLY UNNECESSARY FACTOR OF PROFIT CRUCIAL IN ENDING THE HEALTH CARE CRISIS.

Joan Indusi NY Single payer health care now.

Margaret L. Wise NY This is way overdue! Hope the effort to get it through Congress is not bushwhacked.

Dorothy Scott NY Sounds very good. We need this.

- Virginia Little** NY We must take care of our fellow Americans first. Our govt. must get with the program now, not later. It is way overdue us.
- Rosemary Zukowski** NY It is time for this country to take care of the citizens of this country. We ask our sons, daughters, husbands and wives to defend this country but we don't have a health care program to take care of them and their families. People work all their lives and have everything they saved, wiped out with one illness. We pay the highest prices for prescriptions, when much cheaper drugs are available. Enough!!!
- Paul Vasquez** NY It is time we spent money to make everyone healthy instead of a few people wealthy.
- Sherri Nuti** NY The greed of the health insurance and pharmaceutical industries are running this country into the ground! It's high time we got these monkeys off of our backs.
- Vernon Mogensen** NY Health care is a human right, not a privilege. We need a universal single payer health care plan now.
- Naomi Jones** NY Healthcare now.
- Ms. Billie M. Spaight** NY We are the only developed nation in the entire world without a national universal health care system. Health care is a right not a privilege!
- Monica Sanchez** NY It is long overdue for the United States to join the rest of the industrialized world in providing needed health care to everyone within its borders, regardless of age or income.
- Lynne Sherman** NY **My child nearly died because she had no healthcare (not offered where she works) and had to have emergency treatment to save her. Now she is paying enormous bills (even with charity help) and will do so for years and years on her modest income! Meanwhile, the HMO's made 10.8 billion in profits for 2005! Millions of American citizens work at modest jobs fueling our economy and a country that does not take care of its' people. We fall behind the entire world in our care of our fellow countrymen! I support HR-676!!**
- Andrea Hancock** NY Our current healthcare system is an unhealthy, bureaucratic mess! Let's clean it up once and for all.
- Hassan Bilal** NY As a nation, healthcare should be a right and not a privilege.
- Joan Lantz** NY Please give us national health care now.
- Elinor Amlen** NY Let's get rid of the insurance companies. We don't need a middle man to provide everyone in this country with insurance.
- Noemi Fuentes** NY We demand mandatory healthcare for all!!! PASS THE BILL!
- Robert Schwartz** NY Although I have health insurance for myself and my daughter, we are constantly getting incorrectly billed when we have already paid our Co-payments. This wastes a lot of time of my part and causes me great stress. I have to constantly correct these errors with medical providers and my insurance company. Single payer health care would eliminate this enormous bureaucratic waste of time and money for everyone.
- Martha Chapman** NY Healthcare in this country is in dire need of reform - spending more per person and caring for less of the population each year. PLEASE PASS THIS BILL!
- Mira Berkley** NY **We are forced to play Russian Roulette when our children become grown and can no longer be covered by our family health plans (those of us who have been lucky enough to have them). I have one grown son who is completely uninsured and another for whom I am paying. This is supposed to be insurance for low-income earners. He could never afford to pay it himself. Both sons are college-educated - and under-employed due to the job market. This country can do better.**
- Vicki Moss** NY We need national health care now!

Alice Fisher NY NYC's City Council just did the right thing by passing Intro 246 the NYC Health Care Security Act guaranteeing health coverage to 12,000 NYC full time grocery workers who are now without healthcare coverage. Isn't it sad that we in NYC had to vote on something that our federal government should be taking care of? It's time for the US congress to Do The Right Thing!!!

Nancy Ann Siracusa NY Health care, truth in education and justice are everyone's right.

Christopher Kelly NY In a society which can be described as the wealthiest society in the history of mankind providing health care for our people is a necessity, an obligation. How dare we let a poor child die because an INSURANCE company says so?

Tom Garvey NY Congress, please wake up!! The present health care financing system is dysfunctional and cannot financially be sustained. We need to change it - NOW.

Dale Ann Micalizzi NY It's time for a change that will save lives and restore humanity to healthcare.

George Carter NY I am one of 47 million US citizens facing death due to lack of insurance. We have the capacity to provide health care to all and to save businesses enormous revenues being wasted on lies, fraud and corruption. Part of this is the insurance industry. Part is pharma. Read Marcia Angell, MD's The Truth About the Drug Companies. It will also underscore why your failure to undertake this merely reflects the abject, murderous corruption of the United States government, particularly under lying, murdering thieves like George Bush and Dick Cheney.

Charlotte A. Price NY Since retiring and becoming eligible for Medicare, I have benefitted greatly from the universal health "insurance" available to seniors. The pharmaceutical plan under Medicare, however, leaves much to be desired and reformed. Indeed, the same prescriptions are more costly for me than my 'medigap' insurance coverage that previously included prescription drugs. Universal health coverage, under a "medicare-like" plan is to be highly recommended for all now.

Mary Cashin NY An uninsured family member has been unemployed for 6 months and had only unemployment for the previous six months. For 15 months I have been paying close to \$200.00 a month for this relative's medications and doctor bills and have also paid for a discounted surgical bill. The hospital received only my \$150.00 for an operation that really cost them much more. Hospitals as well as patients suffer from this unjust system which allows CEOs multi million dollars for 8+- hours of daily work, but deprives ordinalry citizens of basic health care. I have only my pension. Please pass the health care reform bills NOW.

Bobbi Siegelbaum NY As a former health educator I always impressed upon my students the importance of prevention, as in the old saying "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." All health care must be accessible and affordable to ALL people. Civilized countries understand this and provide for it.

Suzanne Anderson NY As a primary care physician, I cannot stress enough how important it is to move toward a universal coverage, single payer health care system NOW. It is becoming almost impossible to deliver quality, equitable health care in this country, and it is clear that so many vital dollars are wasted. A vast majority of doctors support a universal coverage plan, because they see the consequences. Please act NOW.

Veronica O'Day NY Recently at Hudson Valley Hospital I WAS TREATED FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION and and diarrhea from 7:45 pm till 5am and then discharged. I was so weak I could not walk so my son wheeled me to the front door. The MD stated that "we do not admit pts. with A.F." I just celebrated my 82nd birthday. I thought the treatment was "inhuman". I am a RN.

Maggie Mahar NY This is the simplest, cleanest plan for reform. Both patients and physicians like Medicare--much more than they like private insurance. We might not be able to do it all at once. Perhaps "Medicare for all" should first be made available (on a voluntary basis) to people 55-65 and under 25. And then to people 45-55. . etc. If private insurers have to compete with Medicare on a level playing field (community rating) only the very best insurers will survive. In the meantime, Medicare needs to work on containing costs and improving quality--two ideas that go hand and hand. More expensive care is not always better care--often it's simply more profitable. .

Tom Garvey NY As we all know, payback is a b____. It is time for the insurance/HMO industry to payback the American Public for all the pain and suffering they have inflicted on the uninsured and underinsured population in the name of excessive profiteering.

Vernon Mogensen NY Health care is a human right not a privilege to be bestowed or taken away by the powers that be.

NEW YORK Continued

- Jack Kashinsky** NY Good luck!
- Kevi Brannelly** NY Please do the right thing for this country and our citizens.
- Bernie Fetterly** NY Single-Payer health coverage is needed now too many people are being hurt. I don't see how our representatives can be so cruel and ignore the need for a National Health Care Plan. Bernie
- David Gilbert** NY Is there any doubt that this country needs comprehensive health care. Support this single payer proposition now.
- Christine Verber, EdD, RN** NY My criterion for voting is whether the legislator is for "Medicare for All"
- Paul Sorum** NY When we have Medicare for All--universal coverage via a single payer--physicians will be able to take care of patients, not their insurance companies.
- Parthenia Excell** NY This is long over due!
- Marina Kelly** NY We are so behind other industrialized countries in the world on this subject. It's embarrassing !It's time our government stopped pandering to big business and started doing what is right for its people!
- Suzanne Broeneman** NY We need some kind of healthcare for retirees that are 62 and not yet eligible for medicare!
- Amy Rovitelli** NY **Enough putting \$\$ into insurance company pockets and not using that \$\$ to care for our citizens! We need HR676 NOW.**
- Kathleen Ince** NY I am a nyc substitute teacher. I have no health coverage thru my job. I think this is an outrage. substitute teachers have to literally pray they don't get sick. our union should be ashamed of themselves. this is such a hardship on us.
- Kate Ryan** NY GREAT IDEA!!! THANK YOU.
- Marguerite Hardy** NY If you reside in the state of New York there are only 2 insurance companies to purchase health care insurance from on your own. One is so expensive you need to be very wealthy to afford it, the other is not going to fill the gap of the major medical insurance I had under COBRA that just ended.
- Debbie Mitchell** NY We need this NOW
- Nydia Leaf** NY YES!
- Christie Biaggi** NY Bravo for your work with the health. I am proud of your work.
- Joel Schwartz** NY President - CSEA Local 446
- Judy Allen** NY Many Democratic candidates campaigned on single-payer health care in 2006, and were elected. Now it's time to make good on those campaign promises.
- Peter D.G. Brown** NY Providing universal health care is one of the most important things this country needs to do and is very long overdue!
- Joseph Catron** NY U.S. corporate health care is socialism for the rich. It's time for the rest of us to demand our fair share.
- Joan Lantz** NY Please pass HR676
- Nicole Griffis** NY Improving access to healthcare and bridging disparities will improve the overall state of our nation and end the needless suffering and financial hardships of our hardest working citizens.
- David Blanchard** NY **"Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable" --JFK**
- June GUSMAN** NY please do this

- Jesse Weissman** NY I urge Congress to pass HR 676 so that all Americans can have and be covered with excellent health care.
- Mary Broginski** NY Health care should be a right not a privilege for the chosen few! Support the Bill!
- Joan Weed** NY There is a need to improve health care now
- Miyoshi Foster** NY We pay 1140.00 a month for health insurance for a family of four this is squeezing our family budget and keeping us pay check to pay check on long island
- Judith Loeb1** NY I have been a physical therapist for 25 years and I believe that a single payer national healthcare system will improve the health of every man, woman and child in our country.
- Patricia Pafundi** NY Single payer universal healthcare is way overdue here. We are the last industrialized nation in the world to provide adequate healthcare yet we have the greatest wealth of medical knowledge and technology. I have been a healthcare professional (pharmacist) for 35 years and I am embarrassed by what has happened to healthcare in this great country. We deliver inadequate healthcare to fewer people than we did 35 years ago while politicians and stockholders get rich off the misery the working class. We should be ashamed of ourselves and the CEO's of the insurance companies and managed care companies should be put behind bars for this egregious crime against humanity.
- Mary Cashin** NY An uninsured family member has been unemployed for 6 months and had only unemployment for the previous six months. For 15 months I have been paying close to \$200.00 a month for this relative's medications and doctor bills and have also paid for a discounted surgical bill. The hospital received only my \$150.00 for an operation that really cost them much more. Hospitals as well as patients suffer from this unjust system which allows CEOs multi million dollars for 8+- hours of daily work, but deprives ordinary citizens of basic health care. I have only my pension. Please pass the health care reform bills NOW.
- Suzanne Anderson** NY As a primary care physician, I cannot stress enough how important it is to move toward a universal coverage, single payer health care system NOW. It is becoming almost impossible to deliver quality, equitable health care in this country, and it is clear that so many vital dollars are wasted. A vast majority of doctors support a universal coverage plan, because they see the consequences. Please act NOW.
- Veronica O'Day** NY Recently at Hudson Valley Hospital I WAS TREATED FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION and diarrhea from 7:45 pm till 5am and then discharged. I was so weak I could not walk so my : on wheeled me to the front door. The MD stated that "we do not admit pts. with A.F." I just celebrated my 82nd birthday. I thought the treatment was "inhuman". I am a RN.
- Denise Shavers Luther King, Jr.** NY "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane." Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Christy Rupp** NY please support this for our future thanks
- Steven Wright** NY This is a moral issue, and the time has come. We all deserve health care.
- Judith Davidsen** NY Cheers to my congressman Charlie Rangel for sponsoring this bill, and a nudge to get him to hold hearings ASAP. This is absolutely great, and I'm so glad that it calls for retraining of insurance industry workers who lose their jobs as a result of single payer.
- Janet Hays** NY I've thought for a long time that healthcare should be divorced from employment. It started when there was a wage freeze and employers sought alternative ways to attract desirable employees. Then it became standard but it's not rational. And it locks people into jobs when they may want to start their own businesses, cut back on hours to have time for other purposes, or make other moves that could be personally important.
- Norman West** NY A single-payer plan, with the U.S. government as the single payer, is the only viable solution to the medical crisis. It preserves free choice of doctors and the administering of health services by private doctors, clinics and hospitals. It cuts out the 14% overhead costs of private medical insurance along with all of the needless complexities of numerous competing insurance companies. Medical care should not require the American people to subsidize the costs of the insurance industry. The United States should not be the only industrialized country in the world that fails to provide medical coverage to a large percentage of its population, and yet be the most expensive medical care system in the world. If American industry is to be competitive with industry elsewhere in the world, the burden of paying for medical care for their employees must be lifted. The American people and the American economy should no longer be held hostage to the claims of one industrial interest.

Phyllis M Andrews NY I cannot think of any legislation more important to bring this country up to the standards of the rest of the 'developed' world.

Maggie Mahar NY This is the simplest, cleanest plan for reform. Both patients and physicians like Medicare--much more than they like private insurance. We might not be able to do it all at once. Perhaps "Medicare for all" should first be made available (on a voluntary basis) to people 55-65 and under 25. And then to people 45-55. . etc. If private insurers have to compete with Medicare on a level playing field (community rating) only the very best insurers will survive. In the meantime, Medicare needs to work on containing costs and improving quality--two ideas that go hand and hand. More expensive care is not always better care--often it's simply more profitable. .

Madeline Baez NY Please help ALL in the United States receive affordable health care. Thank you.

Robert Mikulewicz NY One part of the body doesn't know how ill the other part is. What kind of an organism is that? The private medical insurance business is a cancer in US health care. Remove it now!

Beth Dolen NY We must do something now!

Sungok Lee NY Health Care is a human right!

Chris Hagel NY Safety and health care is the base of a more civilized and just society. Do people have to purchase firefighter insurance to have a house fire put out and lives saved, or otherwise pay out of pocket? Do people have to purchase police insurance for them to intervene in troublesome or dangerous situations, or otherwise pay out of pocket? We pay taxes towards road and bridge maintenance, we don't have to buy road & bridge maintenance insurance or otherwise pay out of pocket to gain access. Do we have to pay sanitation insurance to have our garbage removed or otherwise pay out of pocket? It would not be workable and no one would go for it, but in some bizarre way this is the present situation in America with health care. Single-payer national health insurance is democratic, not managed health care in the U.S. Everything stems from health care. Studies have shown with single-payer national health insurance, there would be for various reasons less waiting time (if any, for elective surgery) in the U.S. than in Canada. Even if sometimes there was some waiting time for elective surgery, it is by far a win-win tradeoff for national health insurance. With national health insurance, health care has nothing to do with employment and all Americans have access to the health care system regardless of the size company they might work for, because it should have nothing to do with a company in the first place. You're covered whether you're a student, a part time working single mother; in between jobs...With national health insurance its benefits by far eclipse any perceived or exaggerated fear about wait time. Americans need to be relieved of this great worry and stress of health care once and for all. This would be truer democracy and freedom. The attitude in Canada is "We give a little to get a lot". About 95% of Canadians are happy with their system and would never give it up. A bicycle mechanic I was speaking with in Toronto a few years ago said he would never be able to afford our mess of a health care system. Why should a worker at Taco Bell have to pay \$40.00 a week into a health insurance plan for scant coverage and all kinds of co-payments and deductibles, when someone else at some other company gets great coverage? Why should health care have anything to do with employment in the first place? Why should a waitress with no health insurance have her scalp stitched back over her brain until they figure out who's going to pay for her surgery from an auto accident? She had to wear a hockey helmet for almost four months until the standoff with Medicaid could be cleared up. Her skull piece was kept in the hospital freezer while she had to live with tremendous pain. Her brain would shift to one side over night. This goes way beyond rationing, this is barbaric!! Why should anyone have to be denied health care insurance or pay more because of pre-existing conditions? What a moral perversion this is. But it keeps the profit margin high for the health insurance companies and its shareholders. Is this any way for supposedly concerned representatives to protect the safety and health care of its citizens? Representative: without a health care finance worry in the world.... No one has the right to judge anyone for not having health care insurance. People are being priced right out of the market and cross their fingers and hope nothing happens. What a bunch of cruel, inhumane, and sadistic elected officials we have in office. These officials without a health care finance worry in the world.... This corrupt bunch of country club politicians opposed to single-payer national health insurance. Our elected officials are obligated to do some spiritual introspection, break ranks with their buddies in the health insurance industry and enact single-payer national health insurance. We are actually very close to it with House Bill HR 676. It is the basic framework on which to build by expanding Medicare to everyone. They are obligated to terminate this criminal and corrupt health care system in the U.S. or we the people will do so!! Thereafter, national health insurance will be phased in. Americans aren't going to take this barbaric and sadistic treatment any longer. Millions of people will flood Washington from every corner of the country. This is a human rights and civil rights violation!! On this basis as well as the practicality of national health insurance, we will win this struggle and gain truer democracy and freedom that we deserve. We will make history together by making it a fairer and more humane country for our future generations. She said it well, that wise woman at Taco Bell, "We have the numbers" Yes indeed and we will prevail in victory!!

Nancy Gilbert NY It is deplorable that so many millions of people in our country have no health insurance. National Health Insurance would remove the middle man who is taking a profit to provide health care. That money could be used to provide more and better care.

NEW YORK Continued

- Lyla Edwards** NY It's time this government took some real social responsibility instead of attending to personal agendas. This is a step in the right direction.
- Miriam Thompson** NY Health care is a human right and should not be profit driven or commodified. U.S. can assure a universal, affordable, accessible, publicly financed health care system.
- Kathy Luz Herrera** NY I'll be bringing this to the attention of my union, and bringing it to the floor of my county Legislature, to be forwarded to our Assemblywoman and to the Congress and Senate. Good Work everyone! We can do this!
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- Judith Eda** NY badly needed and long overdue: "If Not Now, When?"
- Batina Abul-Mu'min Bamba** NY Peace on earth begins with a caring conscience which this nation needs to cultivate. Healthcare for all!
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- Julia Fesko** NY The time has come. I am a middle manager at a human service agency and my employees make minimal wages and pay huge out of pocket expenses for their healthcare. I am embarrassed about this but due to flat funding from the county and state for our agency this is our best option. Healthcare should be accessible to all, it is a human right not a privilege.
- Teejay Courie** NY Health care in america is so expensive, most americans don't even have it!
- Terri Schelter** NY Quality affordable health care is a human right. Let's finally get it done.
- Aida M. Ruiz** NY I am a caregiver to my husband who was diagnosed with Shy Drager in 1997, Parkinson's Plus 2001, and possible Lewy Bodies with Dementia in 2004.
- Karen Keating-Secular** NY 45 million Americans don't have healthcare. This is a sin and a crime. It's way past time to change this. Healthcare for all Americans now!
- Bruce Wood** NY Universal Healthcare Now!
- Frederick Toler** NY In the so called greatest country in the world no one should be without health care.
- K. R. Pence** NY AFTER THE BOTTOM FALLS OUT OF THIS ECONOMY, AFTER THEY HAVE COMPLETELY LOOTED THIS COUNTRY, IF THERE'S ANYTHING LEFT, ANYONE OF CHARACTER NOT IN JAIL, MAYBE WE WILL GET OUR WISH FOR A DEMOCRATIC HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.
- Karen Keating-Secular** NY All the money being spent to murder people in Iraq, but no health care for Americans? Wake up sheeple. This is wrong and we have the power to change it if we want to. It's about time we make our representatives earn our support. Demand a National Health Care Program NOW.
- Deborah Duckworth, Ph.D.** NY As a health service provider, I know first hand how difficult it is for people to afford even the copay on their insurance, let alone afford my services if they don't have insurance. It is criminal that the "wealthiest" country in the world can't afford proper citizen health care.
- Carol Davison** NY I am a self employed person who has to pay 100% of my coverage and co-pays. I have 2 grown children who are uninsured. No coverage is offered and they live pay check to paycheck.
- Ingrid Baez** NY We have so much power to make changes in this world. Just do it.
- Margaret Fiske** NY It is a disgrace that we are the only industrialized country in the world without universal health care. We need a single payer system. PLEASE give this the attention it deserves.
- Aileen Cham** NY Health is a human right; and it's time for our government to recognize that fact!

- Ron Smith** NY the uninsured and underinsured need to be covered by a state or low cost insurance including drug coverage
- Martha Robertson** NY REPEAL the WHOLE Medicare bill now!
- Daniel Schaffer** NY The US owns enough wealth to provide health care for all of its people, but why stop there? We have enough to cover the health needs of most of the world.
- Jesse Weissman** NY I support a single payer, universal health care plan for all Americans. I urge Congress to pass HR 676 so that all citizens can be covered with excellent health care services.
- STEPH MCGEE** NY IT'S SAD TO SEE PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES SUFFERING FROM LACK OF HEALTH CARE!!
- Deanna Roth** NY We need single payer, Medicare for all now. The nation's situation is catastrophic. I know families where both parents are professionals but because they don't work full-time all year round, they don't get health insurance and cannot afford to pay for it themselves. Please do your best to help this country out of the unfair mess it is in. Thank you.
- Vinie Burrows** NY The time has come and passed for a national healthcare program that ensures that every citizen man, woman, child is covered with health insurance. Shame on us - as citizens and shame on this administration, our elected government if we and they do not immediately remedy this obscene lack of social justice. Health Care Now
- Judith Loebel** NY I have been a physical therapist for 25 years, working with poor and working class people: children and adults. Negotiating the current medical insurance system has been a constant roadblock to delivering quality care to people of all ages with whom I have worked. I have expended many hours trying to help people get what they need and deserve with regard to care or equipment. These hours would have been more usefully spent treating them!
- Stacy Briscoe** NY How can we let generations of people of childbearing age fall through the cracks when it comes to the care of their health- Whole Body Health should be as easily accessed as Women's Health via a Planned Parenthood-like structure. I fully support an alternative approach to national health care.
- Arlin Roy** NY As a clinical social worker, minister, and president of a non-profit counseling center, I think the anguish suffered by those needing care is both profound and unnecessary. The uninsured and under-insured are suffering great damage; the damage to our country and economy is huge.
- Lyn Paul** NY In my role as a social work educator, I have recently become aware that when an individual between the ages of 18 - 24 is a full time college or graduate student and is insured by his/her parents' health policy, that individual will be dropped from the plan if, during the course of an acute medical illness, he/ she changes his/her student status from full time to part time or takes a medical leave. As I understand it, COBRA is an option in such circumstances, but is expensive and risky. If the individual is still acutely ill at the time that COBRA terminates, he/she will likely become uninsurable. Each Thursday evening I teach my social work class and watch one student who is suffering from cancer either sit in the classroom weak and ill, or miss class, and I am horrified by this added burden that he and his family carry during such a difficult time. Because of this, every student in this class is making a commitment to collect 100 signatures for this petition!
- Kathie Amatniek** NY I have health insurance, and I've been paying through the nose for it (which I wouldn't have to do in all the other industrialized countries where you get better outcomes for much less money), but I'm finding that I wait too long to go to the doctor, even though I have insurance, because dealing with the paper work from the insurance when I do use it is so awful. My only comfort in all this, is that I wonder whether, in this profit-driven system, when you're never sure that you're going to be prescribed an unnecessary drug or procedure because someone will make a buck from it, that perhaps I'm better off not even getting near the medical care "industry." The current system is unconscionable and intolerable for EVERYBODY in it. We need, at the very least, to have comprehensive, federal health insurance for everybody immediately. We have federal bank deposit insurance, why can't we have federal health insurance? People's health is even more important than their savings!

- Jill Bowden** NY You know this is the right thing to do - as long as some members of our society are unable to lead healthy lives, we are all diminished. This is classism at its worst. Make it better - NOW!
- Arthur R Richter** NY Let's end the Insurance Industry's exploitation of our health care needs and expenditures.
- Ernest Herman** NY Sanity and humanity demand that we have a health care system removed from the profit motive of insurance companies and in control of the profit margins of drug companies. A better Medicare, serving people of all ages, is essential, affordable, and way, way overdue.
- Beverly Wallace** NY Please cosponsor this bill. Very important.
- Rebecca Elgie** NY We walked across NY state encouraging people to support HR676 and listening to their stories, we continue to work full time for a Single Payer system of comprehensive health care for all.
- Christie Biaggi** NY Please look at the health benefits of Sweden or Holland, we deserve to be protected....it is a shame for our health not to be protected
- Henry Ehrlich** NY My sentiments exactly.
- Sr. Beth LeValley** NY It is time to take the fragmented and fractured system that we call health care and move not incrementally but in a rapid jump to institute universal, single payer health care. HR 676 is the only proposal I have seen that does this.
- Lydia Okumura** NY I support HR 676.
- Vicky Cosgrove** NY The fact we have no national health care is proof that we are not a democracy of the people. This country is a shameful dictatorship of greedy corporations and that includes hospitals and pharmaceutical companies!
- Dr. Christine Verber, EdD, RN NY** The #1 responsibility of government is the health and safety of its people. We will save money when we have "Medicare for All". Support HR 676. Do it now!

Jacqueline M. deCosmo-Carroll NY My individual hmo just went up to \$836 per month.... this is outrageous! Healthcare now for all!

- Michael Philip Kaufman** NY Health insurance is possibly *the* single most inappropriate domain for "free-market competition", as so mindlessly touted by Mr. Bush -- since it depends, by its very nature, on amortizing the worst risks across the broadest swath of insureds. Thought through, the logical conclusion *has* to be universal care under a single-payer system.
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- Ivana Edwards** NY First, let's stop the fiction that the US has the best health care in the world. Move to Canada and you will live longer. Americans are among the most UNHEALTHY people in the world.. you know the reasons -- including guns...
- Judith Braun** NY every other industrialized country has had universal health care for decades. why are we still in thrall to the hmo's and the drug companies?
- Kevin Ross** NY HEALTH CARE FOR ALL NOW!!!
- Stephen Dominguez** NY EQUALITY FOR ALL MEANS FOR EVERYONE! give everyone healthcare.
- Israel Martinez** NY The closer we get to actually looking to the welfare of our citizens the better.
- Rebecca Elgie** NY My partner and I are working full time for health care reform both in New York State and at a national level.
- Carol Yost** NY It's past time we had this beautifully simple solution! It's a crime that we have a situation in which people die because they are so in debt they dare not go to a hospital when they are sick. Many others must choose between paying the rent OR buying food OR buying much-needed medicine; or they must choose which vital medicines they are going to take, when they need them all. OF COURSE there should be health care for all, regardless of economic status!

Drora and Ahmos Art Plaut-Benger and Benger NY As an Israeli-born woman married to someone with the same background, I am shocked that a country such as ours doesn't have some sort of government assisted healthcare, etc. program, as do most of the so-called more enlightened countries in Europe and elsewhere. What shocked me the most was how Hillary Clinton, who had the very useful and long sought after program not only shot down by our citizens upon her marriage to Bill Clinton, but numerous satirist, government people and many in the general public delighted in destroyed what might have been the best and most intelligent, resourceful and great combination in the White House to date! It was far more "fun" to deride her, criticize/destroy both of them, asking the most stupid questions like "who wears the pants in that marriage?" etc., than listen to an extraordinarily bright, talented and capable woman who was going to do so much for your incredible country! And so instead, the case for socialized - or if you don't like that word, call it government assisted medical coverage for us all -and not just the extremely rich or a basic and not to terrific plan for those who are so poor, and completely disregarding the middle class people, like ourselves, who can no longer afford the cost of medical coverage, doctor's visits, hospitals, visits to people for mental health because I have a GHI plan which everyone derides and looks down their noses on, simply because while I chose the best plan the Dept. of Ed. had to offer while working for them of the last 4 years, Aetna-US Healthcare QPOS, after several years it went up ye ANOTHER \$300 per month, as a school secretary then because it was easier to get into than as an educator, since I hadn't taught over the years, I haven't been able to obtain ONE decent physician in the mental health area who was moral, dependable, and reliable, since they all are after the 'big bucks' that becoming a physician and then going into the mental health field should command. And now that I've lost my job at the Dept. of Ed. through no fault of my own, thanks to the president's "No Child Left Behind Act" which he enacted but didn't provide funding for, and well as the constant change in leadership on the Chancellor's level in NYC keeping them from noticing that inexperienced, driven/greedy people such as my supervisor whom I treated well, but refused to allow her to treat me like garbage because she was so insecure and so arrogant, and snotty, looking down at my from her lofty heights as an Assist. Principal of Guidance/Pupil Personnel in a very large school of 2600 students with bad academic standards, so she tried treating me like so much garbage and I refused to be treated with disrespect, while she and others got overtime, she hired an additional guidance counselor, helped the G.C.'s out as well as the other support staff, and paid them o/t, while she 'set me up to fail', and when I desperately got the new principal involved, he took my side at first, citing that she had gotten rid of 3 guidance counselors the year before, and as I already found out, was hated by everyone in the school because she had the same horrendous attitude and treated them the way she treated me. In any case, at the end, the principal turned on me too, the UFT Rep. didn't do anything to protect me and also treated me very badly until he found out how accomplished I was before joining the DOE, and they made up all sorts of lies, made people sign letters attesting the them, and had me not only removed from my job, but gave me an unfair U rating, removed my license, and since I had that year and an additional year to meet the 3-year probationary period, used his undo influence to have me lose all cases due to politics, and thus kept me from getting employment in any other NYC school. One addition: The principal had the damn nerve to bring in his old crony, a woman who was an older version of my current boss, who handled the same thing at a school I worked in 2 years before while enduring ovarian cancer - and got exceptional reviews from her: then - she was pushed out because of her terrible personality, inability to do the job, and turned down flatly from becoming principal at that school, and she came in and betrayed me, telling me and everyone else that I couldn't do the job. Now since I've been a Personnel Manager, and had reorganized the support staff of the world's largest temple, with 10,000 members and 3,000 family units a few years before as well as have an analytical and very good mind, I quickly realized that no one person could handle 6 Guidance Counselors in two separate offices alone, with not only an overwhelming workload, but inadequate help who could barely speak English, additional tasks dumped on me that were normally given to one of two other departments, 8 phone lines required to be answered in 2 rings by me alone, w/o help from others, and no one to teach me how to use those bizarre and old fashioned phones to begin with. If I wrote a job description, I would have shown that now only was that not a secretarial job, it was at least one of Manager or rather Administrator, and required at least two full time secretaries to do the job; and desks and school aides/phones at each of the two offices I dealt with in the Guidance Counselor's offices. However, due to the horrible mess the DOE is in, the reluctance to hire additional support staff as needed, move up the a level and get paid accordingly, people like my boss were allowed to come in and terrorize the staff and the principal, who lied to me saying that he asked to be at that school, was allegedly pushed out of his great job at Stuyvesant H.S. as the A.P. of Organization as a result of mishandling 9/11. But all of that was covered up and he, being such a good actor, told me otherwise, and cited me for being insubordinate towards my boss when after she removed her office key from me, when I needed not only to look at her calendar, but use the lifeline of a fax machine - per her request, which he refused to remove from her office and stated emphatically was her own "private" domain - nonsense, since this is a public school, completely funded by tax money - and not a privately held Fortune 500 Company, I went ballistic. And that is the NYC - American way - the last two years at the DOE being complete hell for me also due to my working at another horrendous school with a principal who was a sudsiest; gave me 4-5 jobs, and threatened to give me a U rating if I didn't make their school records up to date. They were left unattended the last two years by two sick secretaries, but at least I had an outstanding UFT Rep. who stopped him, yet he still enclosed a note that I'd been insubordinate to him and gave me 4 unsatisfactory ratings in those categories on my rating sheet, to further humiliate me. Lastly, at the miserable end of that year, the Union Rep. blamed me for all of that, citing the fact that I'd worked at a number of other jobs as evidence, when he knew perfectly well that until one got their license, and I had to undergo Ovarian cancer, so my passing the test and obtaining the license and being appointed took longer than expected, and was moved up. What a democratic - not and revoltingly political mess the DOE is in NYC and elsewhere! Is it a wonder most teachers/and other staff leave on their own and they keep having to rehire, retrain and comb the world looking for good teachers - even while they make up the most ridiculous rules to push out the good, hardworking and caring teachers, etc., while they're trying to save money?!! What a disgusting place to work - the worst in all my years of working in business, nonprofit, and in my husband's business. Drora P. Benger

- Joseph Hannon** NY Its a shame that citizens of the greatest country in the world are the only ones who go without healthcare. As a former police officer who now has no medical insurance, I feel like I have been left behind by my country. Its time that the special interest groups that support politicians campaigns stop running this country. And the country be returned to the American people.
- Yvonne Piburn** NY We have long considered ourselves, as a nation, first in all things that a counrty should be. Economical strong, compassionate to those less fortunate, intelligent, non-violent and forward thinking. At this point in time I have watched all of that disolve. We need to concider the needs of all Americans not just the wealthy. We need health care for all. We NEED social security to remain in place as is. DO NOT privityze social security. In the end it will do far more harm than good, with the weatlthest American coming out just fine and the rest of us worse off than ever.
- Holly Horne** NY It is shameful that people have to die for lack of access to healthcare, which is happening in the "wealthiest nation on earth."
- Victoria Larkin** NY It's about time
- Ashley Wilkerson** NY Free health care for all!
- Pamela Thomas** NY Great program!
- Carol Foresta** NY National health insurance should be a basic human right.
- John Perry** NY National Health....BRING IT ON.
- Sharon Blynn** NY I have encountered first hand how the current system is designed to specifically NOT cover those in need who cannot afford it. Besides a better health coverage system, we also need to do something about the exorbitant and offensively increasing costs of not only basic health care, but care for those who encounter health challenges with costly procedures/ treatments, etc. We should not ever be denied the best quality of health care because of lack of health insurance (just think about how FUCKED UP that term is to begin with!!). We should ALL be "insured" about our health as far as receiving the benefits of quality care that is available and should be available to everyone.
- Shane Baker** NY Let's hope Congress will listen to the people on this one, and not to the lobbyists!
- Marvin Leeds** NY Health care is a human right deserving the support of every human being.
- Claudia Massa** NY Labor to Neighbor we can win the fight!
- Kenneth Usavage** NY Need a healthy country for our present and future. Love thy neighbor by keeping them healthy.
- Kitty Vetter** NY Hopefully All Americans will have Health care; Pres Johnson did this for seniors (Medicare) back in the 60's it is about time we recognize that system helps not just that population out all of us. They live longer , healthier . we worry less about how Mom/ Dad or Grandma will be able to afford care & the health care industry gets paid!
- Robina Niaz** NY It is a matter of great shame for the US to call its elf the only superpower and then fall behind 37 countries on healthcare status. Healthcare is a basic right that should be available to ALL. People should not have to choose between food/rent and healthcare? It is about time the HMOs stopped profiting from this "industry" that is costing human lives. HR-676 must pass.
- kitty vetter** NY Hopefully All Americans will have Health care; Pres Johnson did this for seniors (Medicare) back in the 60's it is about time we recognize that system helps not just that population but all of us. They live longer , healthier . we worry less about how Mom/ Dad or Grandma will be able to afford care & the health care industry gets paid!
- Joe Kane** NY Medicare for all would SAVE over \$200 billion a year, and shrink government by 14 no longer needed bureaucracy, including Medicaid!
- Maureen DiMaggio** NY I consider health insurance a civil right and do not believe that only the rich and those who are employed should have insurance. Those without insurance are usually your sickest and need the care. Insurance companies should not be allowed to profit from illness and if we pooled all the money going into insurance now coupled with an additional tax based on income, we would be able to provide health care for all.
- Bobbi Siegelbaum** NY Let's catch up with the rest of the developed world.

NEW YORK Continued

- Steven Siegelbaum** NY It's about time! Where are you John Kerry?!
- Lydia Okumura** NY I support H.R. 676, Congressman John Conyers's bill (Democrat from Michigan) on Single-Payer Universal Health Care.
- Susan Berlowitz** NY I didn't know anything about your organization until today when I watched Democracy Now! I heard Marilyn Clement speak. I believe that a single-payer health care system is the only option! Thank you!
- Louise Brown** NY With most other Americans, I urge you to do us justice and pass this bill!
- Brian Michel Bacchus** NY THIS IS LONG OVERDUE.
- tresia sanders** NY Its about time for this to become a reality.. too many people are without healthcare in what is said to be the richest nation in the world
- Jeff Grabowsky** NY If we are the Leader of all nations, We must act like one and take care of our "Own" People. A "new" America is brewing!
- Arthur Richter** NY Clear out those inefficient and costly HMO's and Insurance companies, that needlessly absorb \$\$\$'s that should be used to provide health care for all. Implement "Medicare for All" it's the right thing to do and it's time.
- CHRISTINE VIGNOGNA NY THE BIGGEST KILLER IN THE US IS NO HEALTH CARE!!!!**
- Louis VIGNOGNA** NY CANADIANS CAN DO IT ...SO CAN WE
- jesse jenifer** NY Take action
- Alfredo Lopez** NY Everyone needs it. Everyone wants it. We can afford it. So let's do it!
- Zakir Davis** NY This would be great. I don't even have health care now.
- Joy Bell** NY IT IS A DISGRACE THAT THIS COUNTRY DOES NOT PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR 90% OF IT'S CITIZENS IRRESPECTIVE OF INCOME. I AM FROM AUSTRALIA AND HAVE BENIFITTED FROM A MIXTURE OF NATIONAL/ PRIVATE HEALTH COVERAGE.CITIZENS DO NOT RISK BANKRUPTCY OR HOMELESSNESS JUST TO GET THERE FAMILIES PROPER MEDICAL CARE
- Nancy Ann Siracusa** NY Mental health care, together with physical benefits, is to the long-term advantage of America's future and the elimination of a large portion of its financial deficit.
- William Monroe** NY It is a crime that so many people in the USA have no health insurance at all or health insurance that is of such low quality that it covers very little. I am tired of supporting insurance companies that don't want to pay claims and continue to reduce coverage as prices escalate. It's time to stop spending money on endless war and put our tax dollars into comprehensive health care for all. William Monroe
- Aaron Beckerman** NY Go Marilyn, As an active member of Rekindling Reform, plus a part-time job, amidst the hectic political activities in the city and on the web, as you know, one constantly faces choices of how to divy up the limited time. I think that your work is important and will contribute. Good luck Aaron Beckerman
- Mae Jackson** NY I stand in support of this organization and it's progressive and humanitarian efforts to speak to the health needs of all human beings.
- Mia Morosoff** NY If so many other countries can provide basic health care (at the minimum) to their citizens, why can't the US? It is shameful that we don't, and spend so much money on destructive things.
- Nurah-Rosalie Jeter** NY This is a mission that needs to be embraced by all people of faith.
- Bernie Fetterly** NY The Tompkins County Health Care Task Force
- Ruth A Green** NY The cost of health benefits has become outrageous, and unfair
- Edith Amster** NY It is unconscionable that the richest country on the face of this earth in 2004, cannot afford a national healthcare program for all its citizens. We are able to wage wars, milk billions from the public in the investment community, but we can't afford healthcare for everyone!

- Eddie Rivera** NY If people are covered with health care for any reason, I think its unethical and unreasonable. Let's improve the quality of life in our country!
- Thomas Schechter** NY we have 5 national health plans, and need 1. The 5 plans are VA, Medicare, Medicaid, Workmen's Comp, and private insurance
- Jerome and Lillian Friedman** NY Our present system is a disgrace. Let's get Dubya off his arss and do something about it. (one can dream?)
- Nancy Kornbluth** NY It's a crime that our tax dollars go overseas instead to our own people. Too many have severe problems and cannot afford treatment.
- Nancy Kornbluth** NY It's a crime that our tax dollars go overseas instead to our own people. Too many have severe problems and cannot afford treatment.
- Morris Einhorn** NY It's about time the US caught up with the rest of the industrialized world in providing universal health care to its people. Since we provide such health care to our congressmen, it would seem only fair that they do the same for us tax-payers.
- Bill Henning** NY It's past time. Employers are killing us at the bargaining table over this issue. They should get involved as well.
- Kathleen Ince** NY I Work as a substitute teacher for the city of New York. We have no medical insurance. It is a disgrace on our union that they don't care what and how we get medical help. They shouldn't be allowed to get away with this.
- Tibor Weinreb** NY Single payer Universal Health Care is the best plan of all the proposals available in every way.
- Carl Arnold** NY Universal, single-payer healthcare is long overdue for the US population.
- gloria korecki** NY We are hearing today of Billions being sent to finance the Iraqi war.yet we have a country that says universal health care for all is not possible. The administration should be ashamed of ignoring US citizens.
- Michael Philip Kaufman** NY **On sustained and honest reflection, the case for single-payer healthcare becomes irrefutable. Since health insurance depends fundamentally on spreading actuarial risk across the widest possible population, it follows that multiple for-profit insurers can only compete by striving to select less-risky subpopulations (and/or by refusing payment on claims). Any resulting profits are effectively stolen from those who must insure the "leftovers" -- be it the government (as insurer of last resort), or other insurers (or, more to the point, those insurers' customers, who will pay inflated premiums). In the end, this sort of competition simply guarantees that either some will go without healthcare...or we will all pay for the most expensive care, while the for-profits prosper in a rigged game of chance.**
- James Yeargin** NY What good is a country that has no single payer health care system? A country that is destined to first, mediocrity, then disintegration. Would you raise your children to devour you? That's the equivalent. Putting healthcare onto the Roulette Wheel of predatory profit uber alis, speculation is a bankrupt and unsustainable system. No wonder the European countries have superior life style and sensibility while US Agribusiness feeds people addictive junk to kill off their customers. Even Henry Ford realized that you have to have a healthy clientele to sustain your society. This country's leaders and profit obsessed fat cats are totally ignorant of history and any sense of the object of a meaningful life.
- Dr. Sheila & Rev. John Collins** NY Health care in the U.S. has become a national crisis and a national disgrace. As the richest nation in the world it is unconscionable that 47 million people go without health care in our country. We support government guaranteed, universal (NOT privatized) health care as the only economically and morally defensible solution to the health care crisis.
- Thomas J Rowan** NY I am a hospital chaplain. Today I met an 85 year old patient in a wheelchair with her three siblings outside in the hallway. They were waiting for her to go to a rehab center so she can walk. Why walk? They told me that they investigated home care and could not pay the \$2000.00 a month fee. So Eleanor, who only wants to go home, probably to die, is off to rehab. I hope and pray that she gets her wish. The economics of healthcare is in dire need of real reform.
- Jesse Weissman** NY I'm very grateful that my congressman is a cosponsor of this bill.

David Tillyer NY Whenever healthcare is discussed, we always seem to worry about the insured and the uninsured. Why not just eliminate the insurance middle person. There should be healthcare that is available to every American. We can pay for it in taxes. We already pay for it in insurance premiums, why not just pay taxes and be taken care of.

Maryani Palupy Rasidjan NY Universal healthcare NOW! Uninsured folks; citizens and non-citizens is an egregious human rights abuse!

Muriel Kahn NY I am French, what do you expect? Health care in this country is a disgrace and has become more as years go by. I am not holding my breath. But it is nice to see some people have a sense of conviviality.

Lora Friedman NY If Kerry wins, don't let him off the hook. Single payer now!

Annie Stauber NY It is time for us to behave like a civilized country. We need to spend our money on caring for our people, not on machines for killing people. Health care, not warfare, please. Our lives can be so much better

Karen Keating-Secular NY This is urgent. And it is simply the right thing to do.

S. FITZSTEPHENS NY free all political prisoners

Mary Ellen Parks NY healthcare for all is absolutely essential, especially for children and for seniors, those who need our assistance and support

Robert Engel, Jr NY **By not insuring our population and giving them quality health insurance, we are hurting ourselves. Universal healthcare means a healthier population, a more affluent society, and more jobs for Americans. It also means all Americans can have a better life and well being without suffering from their ailments due to lack of insurance. Do the right thing and make it happen, Universal Healthcare for All!**

Wynde Priddy NY Thank you Marilyn for all your hard work! May we see justice in health care during our lifetime.

Linda Haenichen NY I am extremely concerned about the health care system in New York State. In particular, the new cuts that Gov. Spitzer is proposing for our state. These will add an additional burc en to an already burdened system.

Karen Keating-Secular NY This country needs single payer Universal Healthcare NOW. It's a disgrace that we don't have it already. We used to lead the world--now we lag behind and destroy the world. Pathetic.

Jesus Mangual NY As a war veteran i believe that if the united states of America can spend billions of dollars on unnecessary battles than consider spending billions on the best natural resource, the citizens of this country. Many workers and their families have no health coverage. Many spend years working and when they retire they get shortchanged. You spend your life working to help your country grow and then at the end of your tour you get the boot.

patricia robes NY It would be God sent to have affordable health insurance, currently my family and I have none.

Michael Green NY It is time for the US to join the civilized world. Health care for all now!

NANA SOUL NY The government is supposed to represent the people. We pay taxes so that our country can run and our government can steward as we see fit. The majority of United States citizens want national healthcare. What is taking our government so long to acknowledge the needs and wants of the populace? At some point, capitalism and greed have to make way for the common good. Only then can we proudly call ourselves a democracy.

Alexis Mohr NY I fully support a single payer national health care system.

Marilyn Charales NY Let's work together for Universal Health Care for all. It will be for the good of the uninsured and underinsured.

Zoe Morsette NY **My private HMO goes up 20% a year. Next year it will be higher than my rent. As a 55 yr. old cancer survivor, I'm afraid to drop my insurance, but may be forced to. But what is truly pathetic is that I do not wish to live as long as my parents, because I can't afford to. I would rather be dead than homeless.**

NEW YORK Continued

- Bernie Fetterly** NY We are working on getting a single-payer resolution passed in every county in New York. During our walk across New York we met several people who will help us do so. Where we need help is to get every congressperson signed on to HR676 especially the New Congresspersons Arcuri, Hall, and Gillibrand. They surround Maurice Hinchey's district and we are working in that area now. What would also really help would be to get Hillary Clinton and Chuck Schumer supporting HR 676 and introducing a similar bill in the Senate. This is New York Talking to their US Senators, Congresspersons, and Governor. Yes Gov. this means you. Support HR 676 New York to help promote the bills and resolutions in the State. A6576 and S3459 (may have new numbers now. We also need Schumer, Clinton, Hinchey, Arcuri, Hall, and Gillibrand to support Eric Massa in the 29th who is running for US congress in 2008. Eric Massa strongly supports hr 676. Rebecca and I will devote a lot of out time in the 29th, but could really use your help.
- Shirley Novak** NY Healthcare for ALL NOW is LONG OVERDUE! Get it done NOW!
- Joan Ferrante** NY It is shameful that a country as rich as ours does not provide full health care to all its people. We must have a single-payer national system. Other developed countries can do it. Why can't we?
- kate ryan** NY `We definitely need a single payer healthcare system - NOW!
- Carol Wheeler** NY It's an outrage that we don't have health coverage for every person in this country.
- Karen Keating-Secular** NY It is ridiculous and extremely pathetic that we have to resort to this to get health care in this country. It should be our right as Americans to Universal Health Care---PERIOD.
- Louis J Arcese Jr.** NY Its a uncomprehensible travesty that a country as rich as ours doesnt guarantee access to health care for all its citizens.
- Debbie Camiller** NY Everyone has the right to good health care no matter what. So good job and God bless you for the wonderful work you are doing
- Thomas Cornell** NY Ensure our right to life by securing the means to life, health care.
- Lee Golde** NY Count Me In
- Marian Lewis** NY The present Medicare plan pays a very small part of my medical costs. I pay \$253 a month to have decent coverage. I am a senior citizen on very limited income and live with very few comforts so I can pay for my medical care.
- Adele Bender** NY The U.S. could save 286 billion dollars from all the paper work and bureacracy that the present fragmented and fractured system is costing this nation. The taxes that would have to be paid to sustain single payer would probably be less than what is paid to the various insurance health plans and the high cost of pharmaceutical drugs.
- Angela Heimburger** NY Universal access to health care is a fundamental human right; to not provide it in one of the wealthiest nations in the world is criminal.
- Charles Jaffe** NY I believe health care is an inalienable right covered in par. II of the Declaration of Independence- part of "Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Happiness" (life) and should not be in private hands.
- Michael Hu** NY Health care for everyone!
- Barbara Briggs** NY Good health care is desperately needed for all in the country. Preventive health care could help everyone.
- June Kim** NY Thank you and let's get this done!
- Molly Klopot** NY I think that this campaign is doable and winnable and if we get to work we will win it.
- Susan kirsch** NY This is an issue whose time came a long time ago. It is a shame that this still has to be our current theme in America. Let's get it done NOW.
- Noemi Fuentes** NY I think if the billions of dollars spent for weapons and war paraphernalia are used to "cover the uncovered", our nation will be filled with healthier and happier people!
- Patricia Carew** NY This bill is vital for Americans. Pls work hard for it. Thanks.

- Susan Blumenfield** NY It is time that as a western nation we provide health care, including prescription drugs for all our citizens. What has been a windfall for HMO's in this country needs to be utilized, instead for universal health care.
- Lisa Wartur** NY As a healthcare professional and a private citizen who has experienced the nightmare of having to choose between being uninsured or spending an exorbitant amount of \$ on a private policy, I am disgusted by this country's lack of National Healthcare for all. I am especially disillusioned by the fact that there is short term interim medical insurance available for most states, which are effective the day one enrolls, but New York is exempt from those types of policies. It is time that ALL citizens in ALL states receive equal coverage and equal medical treatment, regardless of socio-economic status.
- Rosalind Petchesky** NY This is a program that is long past due. It will bring the United States into synch with other developed economies, among which our health system is currently the most unjust in the world.
- Ting-ting Liang** NY We can afford to spend a billion in Iraq every week, but we can't help our own sick and needy? THAT is un-American.
- Deborah Drucker** NY Single-payer is such a no-brainer, I am consistently astounded by the opposition to it. The insurance industry propaganda machine is going strong, so strong, in fact, that people now use the term "health coverage" (an insurance industry term) to mean "health care."
- CLAIRE VOGEL** NY Can't come soon enough.
- Nancy Quinones** NY I went without health insurance for years, because of low paying positions I had and/or insurance was too expensive for me. Now I am a single mother and though I finally have benefits, it is still difficult because every year the insurance rates go up. Something really needs to be done--I can't imagine not having insurance now with a three year old!
- Lisa Wartur** NY As a healthcare professional and a private citizen who has experienced the nightmare of having to choose between being uninsured or spending an exorbitant amount of \$ on a private policy, I am disgusted by this country's lack of National Healthcare for all. I am especially disillusioned by the fact that there is short term interim medical insurance available for most states, which are effective the day one enrolls, but New York is exempt from those types of policies. It is time that ALL citizens in ALL states receive equal coverage and equal medical treatment, regardless of socio-economic status.
- Sam Zaslavsky** NY Universal single payer health insurance is affordable and long overdue.
- Deborah Martin** NY As a social worker and being self employed, this has been a huge issue for me and mine for years..
- Brooke Williams** NY I work two jobs and still get paid too little for regular doctors visits, prescriptions, or gynecological check-ups. This is unacceptable. Every UK citizen has access to this thing...why not us?
- Beverly Collins** NY It needs to be done now.
- MaryAnn Lis-Simmons** NY Holding up a mirror that reflects the health care needs of people in this country, we should be ashamed in the eyes of the world for our neglect. Let's fix it.
- Tresa Martinez** NY Greed and/or economic status must not be a deciding factor in access to health care.
- Alice Sturm Sutter** NY As a Family Nurse Practitioner, I witness the tragedies brought about by delays in treatments of preventable illnesses on a daily basis. This is the result of uninsured and underinsured people unable to access health care.
- Elissa White** NY I am one of the more fortunate ones in this country, having been a civil servant (mental health field) ; thus having health insurance from the State and also having Medicare -- which seems to keep getting cut. I am concerned however for those who are not covered by health insurance. I think it's reprehensible that this country -- one of the richest in the world -- cannot see it's way clear to providing universal health care for all its citizens. I think we are controlled too heavily by hmos and the pharmaceutical industry and their profits seem to take matter more than human life.
- Peter D.G. Brown** NY This is more than a century overdue, but better late than never!

NEW YORK Continued

Patrick Shea NY I've worked in the health care area for nearly forty years; many things must be changed to simplify, humanize and improve the system.

Patrick Loman NY It is a shame that the richest country has to be shackled with a an accidental system of health care that does not provide coverage to almost 20% of its population and which only seems to benefit the insurance companies. We can and must do beter.

tamaara d tabb NY I and my husband -- we are 87 and 93 respectively --have excellent medical coverage. We want similar good coverage for our children, extended family, and all others in our country. This bill will go a long way toward achieving this.

Pearl Korn NY **As a founding member of Citizens for Medical Safety, I have come to realize that our class defined healthcare system must end. We can get a lot more and pay less with National Health Insurance. Let's do it America!**

NEVADA

John Gerwig NV It's time!

John Gerwig NV Single Payer Plan...NOW

Gabriel Gentile NV Anyone who doesn't believe in the single-payer system is either an avaricious, drug-dealing quack or a complete and utter moron!

MariaCarmen Vidarte NV health care should be made available and affordable to each and every tax paying citizen in this country.

John Gerwig NV Let's bring America out of the stone ages, healthcare is a human right!

Jason Kiser NV **I feel this is a very important issue, my girlfriend (who works full time) and many others I know cannot get health insurance. If she or anyone without insurance is hurt then they will not be able to pay for it. It is a basic human right, and should not be denied to anyone. Health care should be for everyone not for a small portion of the population.**

Stuart Estrine NV Health care is a Human Right, not a commodity to be bought and sold to make wealthy the idle rich.

NORTH CAROLINA

Brenda Stillman NC please sign HR676 health care for all.

Bruce Watson NC Please co-sponsor HR-676. There are plenty of people in this district who need medical coverage who don't have it. Help us join the ranks of civilized nations with universal health care!

Bill Kornegay NC the sooner we get it, the better we all will be

Diane Shamis NC UP for Democracy & the Hip Hop Caucus Universal healthcare & support for HR 676 is the single issue on the progressive agenda, which can unite all working people, cutting across race, class, and region. Medicare for all is viable - it's not a dream, it's an imperative! Let's make it happen!

Kathy Stilwell NC Why are we even having to fight for this?

Nick Collins NC **As a future physician, I hope to see a national health care system by the time I begin practicing medicine!**

NORTH CAROLINA Continued

- Mary Ciocan** NC America needs to take care of its citizens. We need a national health care plan so all people can get medical care. Let's stop spending money to kill Iraq people and our own young people and spend it on healthcare!
- Annapurna Dasgupta** NC We have the most advanced medicines being developed in this country, yet the people who need it don't have access to it. For Shame!
- Annapurna Dasgupta** NC We have the most advanced medicines being developed in this country, yet the people who need it don't have access to it. For Shame!
- Daniel Pryfogle** NC This health care issue poses a question at the heart of our national journey. As The Call put it, "When will America become America?"
- Esther Megill** NC Please sign this petition not only in my name, but on behalf of the Western North Carolina United Methodist Federation for Social Action. We want this bill to go through!
- Victoria Bursleson** NC I'm young and I find myself worrying about how I am going to afford health care, when in my theory the people are the ones that will continue with the US legacy-so why aren't we receiving any help?? we the people need help-we need affordable health care support HR-676 PLEASE
- Debbie Burks** NC Medicare works and costs the consumer less than insurance. I do not want a for profit company between me and my healthcare. Every other industrialized country has a Medicare type system for all of their citizens, it is time we join the only sane choice for healthcare to cover all of our people.
- Patricia A. White** NC The working poor and aging populations need decent healthcare now. It is one of our basic human rights.
- Harold Brokaw** NC It is our responsibility to care for our people. We can provide health care for all. This single payer health care bill is the way to do it.
- Debbie Burks** NC Medicare for all is THE answer for healthcare for this country. Please support this bill.
- Becky Davis** NC health care for all americans.
- Matt Utterback** NC **This is about our economy. Healthcare is the primary reason why more cars are now made in Ontario rather than Michigan. This is about our Security. With our fractured healthcare system and large masses of uninsured and underinsured people we are more vulnerable to bio-weapons. This about letting people have self determination and earn their own living. 75% of disabled people are on SSI. Why? If you have SSI, you have medicare. If you take a job for 30k a year and suddenly find that you need a 25k surgery, you were a fool to take the job.**
- Linda Silwedel** NC please listen to the people!
- Sallie Scharding** NC I am self-employed, and can not afford health insurance premiums that reflect services and treatment that make it worth the cost. I pay out of pocket for everything. I am uninsured and I vote!
- Melissa Fridlin** NC Many of my friends and family are going without needed medical care because they can't afford to pay for insurance... and many people I have talked to are in major debt just because of one health crisis. This is unacceptable! I support this bill - Congress must be bold and creative on this issue, as soon as possible!
- Mary Carol Koester** NC Please provide healthcare for everyone, this is the responsibility of a democratic government. The rewards of capitalism must be redistributed.
- Jan Sherburn** NC It's time we stop spending money on needless wars and time we take care of our citizens.
- Brenda Stillman** NC Please pass HR676.
- Al Russo** NC Universal healthcare for all!
- Rita Russo** NC This is our #1 domestic issue. Our health care system is a disaster. EVERYBODY in this country should have healthcare!

NORTH CAROLINA Continued

Marnie Thompson NC There is nothing so different about us USers that we cannot operate an effective single payer, comprehensive health care system, as has been done successfully in numerous other countries. I know some people think we will not get good health care if we adopt this kind of a system, but we are not getting good health care now! For instance, my husband and I were recently uninsured during a period between jobs. During that time, we could not go to the doctor when we got sick -- even if we were willing to pay cash on the barrelhead. The reason? A visit to the doctor would have established any illness as a pre-existing condition, one that our next insurer would not pay for! The result -- I limped around on torn up cartilage for several months, probably making my knee worse in the long run. That's not good health care! This story is not any where near as serious as the hundreds of thousands of heartbreaking stories where people die or live with crippling conditions, simply because they cannot afford health insurance or health care. On top of that, even when you can afford health insurance, it's no guarantee that your plan will cover you when the chips are down. The profit motive leads insurers to look for reasons to deny coverage. There is no room for profit in something as fundamental as health care. Let's end this madness, and do what other intelligent developed nations do - move to a single payer universal health care system! Support HR 676!

Dr. Richard Crutchfield NC We are unquestionably the most powerful and wealthy nation in the world today - and have been for some time. We boast of being the world leader in "democracy", "freedom", "human rights", opportunity and the abundant life for all. This is the "American Dream". Yet in practice this dream does not include the health and welfare of so many of our elderly, poor and middle class working people who have no voice in a health care system dominated by powerful pharmaceutical interests. Our record among civilized nations is abysmal, embarrassing and inexcusable. We the people of this nation urge you to take responsibility and support HR 676.

Bruce Watson NC It's embarrassing that the USA doesn't have universal health care. Universal health care is a hallmark of civilization that we lack. Do the right thing and pass HR 676.

Carrie Peed NC It's a shame that people in America are starving, living in poverty and unable to go to the doctor because of fear...fear of what a medical bill will do to their family. Many diseases that can be controlled or even cured if found in their early stages are killing innocent hard working Americans on a daily basis because they cannot afford to seek medical attention. The US is constantly funding this, that and the other for other countries and ignoring the needs of its own people. Everyone seems to be out to pad their own pocket and simply talk about what should be done. It's time we had someone that will take action and get this done for our people. This is a disgrace to the forefather's of our country and the foundation they built it on. Stand up, stand proud and be Americans. Take a stand to not allow this to continue. Make your voice heard and change will come. It may be a long, hard row to hoe but we must all work together to get everyone nationwide to admit there is a problem and to agree to find a solution for a better tomorrow. Put prayer back in our schools and teach the children of the future moral's. The battle that is now ours will one day be theirs. I for one don't want my children to one day think that this great country we live in has let them down. The United States of America should not be a disappointment. We've all been taught better than that.

Jo Miller NC Please Pass This Bill. It is the best thing for America and its citizens!

Kevin Barnett NC Now is the time to take action and stop waiting on someone else to do what needs to be done. This is the first step to getting what every American needs and deserved, Affordable Healthcare

Orus Barker NC HEALTH CARE IS A RIGHT NOT A PRIVILEGE!!!

Ann Broadhurst NC It's time is NOW.

Karen Haas NC Retirees need complete health care benefits without having to decide between food, home and health care.

Annabelle Herrada NC Health Care and Education are rights for everyone, not just the privileged rich or lobbyists!

Pamela Page NC I suffer from depression, anxiety and panic attacks. While unable to work and waiting for a disability hearing, I have no insurance. I have found some help out there, but the government cuts back on whatever I find. I have to wait for at least 18 months for a disability hearing. This is ridiculous. Nobody seems to care. People need help!!!

Alan D. Roblee NC It is time to support a health care system that treats all Americans, without regard to wealth or status, equally and with dignity.

Mary Yeazell NC Bravo! to you who have organized this drive and to all who sign. Badly needed program.

NORTH CAROLINA Continued

Edward Miller NC PLEASE pass this bill, myself and others that I know are without health insurance because they cannot afford it and many have serious illnesses such as heart disease and diabetes, cancer, and other life threatening situations and illnesses. It will be the best way to become closer to your constituents.

Terry Stanfield NC Single Payer must happen NOW!

Carolyn Stanfield NC It is time for an overhaul to our current wasteful system that denies the right to healthcare for so many Americans! Single Payer healthcare is a must!!!

Doaty Flanigan NC We would save money as a country with a proactive plan instead of what we do now, pay for uninsured unnecessary ER visits. I want the MD making decisions, not the temp girl at the Insurance Comp.

Matt Utterback NC I will be voting for a candidate with a commitment to universal health care. Our economy, security and future depend more on this than any other issue, and no other solution is viable.

Rae Stoll NC **Health care dollars should go for health care, not for huge salaries for CEOs of insurance companies and HMOs. Thank you, Rep. Conyers!**

Steven Bury NC Even with expensive health insurance if I or my wife has a serious illness the deductibles and co-pays could wipe out our entire life savings leaving one or both of us in poverty for our remaining years. With the thought of losing everything including our house it would be better to just take a walk out back and end it. Please pass HR 676 for the common good of all instead of the current policy of health care for only the rich. Thank you.

Dorothy booth NC My problem with the current system is this: The insurance companies do not cover anything!! they are extremely selective in what is paid and what is not paid. One needs a law degree to decipher a policy. And they have the nerve to charge for this! But, what choice do we have? It is far too chancy to go without. We need to do something. Thank you for your effort.

NORTH DAKOTA

Jackie Brodshaug ND All other developed nations have health care guarantees for their citizens. It's time we joined the civilized world.

Isham Christie ND It's way past due.

"The time is always right to do what is right."
-Martin Luther King, Jr.

OHIO

Kenny Peffley OH Its time for a change! We are supposed to be one of the richest countries, yet there are people going without healthcare due to the costs involved. Its deplorable that people have to choose between getting medical attention, and putting food on their tables or clothing on their backs.

George Yenser OH Why should we have to go to a different country just to get the medication we need to survive? The production of these drugs and therapies are made here,yet we pay exceedingly high prices for them that we can get cheaper in foreign countries. THIS MUST STOP. LETS TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN FIRST!!

Sue Peffley OH This is something that is LONG overdue in this country!!

Pam Cobb OH Good luck! We will need it to go up against the powerful insurance, pharmaceutical, and AMA lobbyists. Maybe what we need is campaign finance reform, in order to make this happen!

OHIO Continued

- Ted Buczek** OH It is absurd that we do not have National Health Care. Even industry is being hurt by the lack of National Health Care. I for one am paying my own way and the cost is extremely difficult to afford.
- Tony Bavry** OH This is what compassionate conservatism truly is.
- Rhonda Vest** OH Excellent this is a wonderful way for everyone to have health care.
- Rhonda Vest** OH Excellent this is a wonderful way for everyone to have health care.
- Ann Alden** OH We need to pass a health care plan for the whole country. I believe Sen. Edwards mentioned this during his debate with VP Cheney. Why isn't this happening without a change in who is running the country?? We would be in far better condition, health wise, with preventative care plus coverage for all Americans. If the doctors in this country weren't so greedy along with the insurance companies and the drug companies, we would already be on a single-payer plan. Single payer insurance plan would be the healthiest plan for this country.
- Sagar Doshi** OH Fourth year medical student at NEOUCOM
- Cathy Couto** OH This would be a dream come true. I am all for it.
- Heath Lynch** OH I agree, its a shame that there's so many people in the country let alone the world that don't have access to health care or insurance. In these harder times, we all must take a stand and let the world know what we need, and that everyone deserves the same opportunity and access to the wonders of healthcare. Besides we don't want billions of people wondering around sick all the time now do we? Nothing would ever get taken care of, then where would we be?
- Heath Lynch** OH I agree, its a shame that there's so many people in the country let alone the world that don't have access to health care or insurance. In these harder times, we all must take a stand and let the world know what we need, and that everyone deserves the same opportunity and access to the wonders of healthcare. Besides we don't want billions of people wondering around sick all the time now do we? Nothing would ever get taken care of, then where would we be?
- Terri Jackson** OH TAKE A STAND FOR WHAT IS RIGHT!
- Heath Lynch** OH I agree, its a shame that there's so many people in the country let alone the world that don't have access to health care or insurance. In these harder times, we all must take a stand and let the world know what we need, and that everyone deserves the same opportunity and access to the wonders of healthcare. Besides we don't want billions of people wondering around sick all the time now do we? Nothing would ever get taken care of, then where would we be?
- Terry hahn** OH Yes, please provide healthcare to every single person in America. Thank you, Terry Hahn.
- Diana Schrader** OH I have been on disability for 3 1/2 years from JPMORGAN Chase. Back in September my insurance was stopped by them because I found out they made a mistake in January 05 in the amount taken out of my disab check. No fault of mine. I have been fighting with them for the past 4 months. I have had to stop taking some of my meds because I can't afford them. I was told it would take them 60 days to investigate and get back to me. Now when I try to call in to find out what is going on all I can get is a call center and no one knows anything. I had a surgery in September and this has not been paid. God knows I can't afford to pay that bill. This is all so stupid. I feel like I'm being treated like a 2nd class person. What do they want us to all die and go away? We, as the richest country in the world need to correct this now. Stop spending all that money on other countries and take care of our own. If anyone wants to boycott JPMORGAN Chase I would love it. The rich just keep getting richer. It will not cut into anyone's profits to make the insurance, healthcare, dental, and vision better. I also have 3 teeth which are broken off that I can't afford to get taken care of. Guess what I'm not dying and I refuse to go away. Someone someplace will hear what is going on.
- Faith Wally** OH I just took my mother to the dentist this morning and found out that of the 2000+ in dental work needed, her HMO covers NONE of it. She has been paying into her health insurance for five years. This is ridiculous! I am a college student who will be helping my mother to pay the dentist with unsubsidized college loans. I am fed up!
- Nancy Zavalnak** OH Everyone deserves Health Coverage in this country. It is time to take care of our own. It is a total disgrace what is happening to adults and children who have no health care. I will soon join the list of the uninsured. I am a Lupus and Graves patient. I also have Pulmonary Fibrosis and Fibromyalgia. Without health care I am sure that I will die. Blood work twice a year is well over \$1000.
- Alice Kiser** OH When will our Legislators finally realize that they should be taking care of Americans first? We're mad as heck and we're not going to take it anymore

OHIO Continued

- Timothy Bruce** OH Let's drag our healthcare system into the 20th, century, then maybe into the 21st.
- Kimberly Harris** OH I am a single-parent, working part-time and going to school. I have three teenagers at home and I have got to make a choice about whether to have health care for me and my children or earn a few hundred dollars extra each month to put food on the table. My income is around 15,000 per year, and sometimes I receive childsupport. I am faced with some medical issues this year and my health is a great concern, but I also have to take care of the bills and maintain the home the best I can. I will have to cut my hours in half just to receive the Medical Benefit. I believe there should be a better way to take care of American Citizens with regard to health care for the nations poor.
- Claire Charlton Rahn** OH Of all the problems that confront us as a nation, this is the one that should unify us all. Heathcare NOW is long overdo. Universal coverage must become the number one priority of our legislators.
- Sue Tekulve** OH It is appalling that we have such an inadequate health care system in this country. Something needs to be done to provide health care to everyone. Not just to those wealthy enough to afford it.
- Joeletta Akemon** OH Let's Do It!!!!
- Tom & Terri Galloway** OH This is LONG OVERDUE. It is a sad day when we can wage war, but can not fully insure the health of our Veterans, Retirees, and working poor (or the rest of us, for that matter).
- RONALD DITTERT** OH THIS IS LONG OVERDUE
- Brandon Bedinger** OH I'm a student at Eastern Michgan University and I am giving a speech on this topic. I think it is a vital step that needs to be taken in the United States due to the poor condition of todays private health care system.
- florence swanger** OH wake up america.medical is no1 lets follow canada californa massachuttes
- florence swanger** OH i have written to gov lt gov on health care .my grandson was taken to hosital no ins.they referred him to grandview clinic.after giving all his info they asked for his ins.i said he has none.well their asnwer was we are not taking new pts.well dont take his information then tell me they are not taking new pts.now im mad and petitioning the gov,senate.
- Kathy Hawkins** OH I truly believe that we need a national health plan there are too many people without health care. Even with healthcare from employers the premiums, co-pays and deductables are getting out of hand. I am a diabetic and I know that it is getting to expensive to buy the medication and supplies that I need and I have medical insurance.
- Robyn Bleasedell** OH I agree with this 100 percent the Government nœds to wake up and see that we are the only country who does not provide for its people. Do we not see without the little guys we do not have a great country?
- ronald dittert** OH not sure first one was ok. we need a single paye r system, similar to Canada. we do not need "insurnce" companies trying to make a profit off of sick people. The costs are out of controlm pass HR676.
- Steven L Cochran, M.D.** OH We simply cannot afford to have 40% of our population going without health insurance- why would we want to? But we simply cannot afford to continue using the health insurance companies. They have shown absolutely no restraint in their greed. Medicare for all is simple, fair, efficient, and affordable.
- Denny Longwell** OH It's about time we caught up with the rest of the world when it comes to National Healthcare.
- Margaret e. Henderson** OH help our country! we must stand for all!
- Robin Schenault** OH Health Care should not be based on economic status. ALL Americans need and deserve quality health care. Our citizens should not have to choose between obtaining health care and buying groceries!
- S Fixler** OH us healthcare? prescription drugs? i was in an accident at no fault of my own - the guilty party was underinsured - and i wound up paying the remainder of my hospital bill \$25,000. I am still working off that debt. None of the related conditions I am experiencing now (years later) are covered by my insurance any more. Short of denying insurance renewal altogether, my insurance simply proposed a higher deductible. At my current \$5000 annual deductible, I cannot afford any preventative or health maintenance measures - so I am just waiting for a health catastrophe to happen at which point, it will be almost pointless to have catastrophic insurance.

OHIO Continued

Arlene Sheak **OH** Good Day, Health care access and coverage should be universal. Imagine the cost savings with a single-payer system which will save millions of dollars for local school systems and municipalities! We need this cost shifting that will contribute to the personal health and community financial health for each citizen. We need to remove the profiteers of our current system, reduce the paper shuffling, and put that money into actual health care. Ohio has 1.3 million people without any coverage and an equal number underinsured. It is extortion for some people to pay \$5000.00 a year with a \$10000 deductible. We are ranked 37th in the world in health care outcomes. We know that we can do better with our resources and knowledge. You are in a position to help solve this problem. An Ohio Grandma, Arlene Sheak

Tammy Bellis **OH** **I am a social worker in a federally qualified health center in an urban city. Every day, I see sick people who are unable to be referred to specialists due to their lack of insurance. These people get worse and have no hope of getting better due their lack of access to health care when they really need it. I see it firsthand on a daily basis (unlike many who just pretend like this isn't happening) and am appalled at the lack of healthcare resources for our "richest" country. Please act now and do something to really help the citizens of our country.**

Diane Henry **OH** I think each state in the US needs to have a healthcare system in place for those who are unemployed/ unemployable/ retired without health insurance/ or unable to work, due to injury, yet unable to qualify for any health insurance. It is just horrible that we don't have such a system in this country!! Gov. Schwarzenegger, in California, is doing the right thing...starting to get such a system in California! All the states should follow this lead!

William Vaccaro **OH** I am single, have diabetes, and am self employed for 25 years. My health insurance has now exceeded my mortgage payment. Come this July I will no longer be able to afford the health insurance. I will probably lose the american dream of owning my own business. Without health insurance, one accident, one trip to the hospital, I'll likely lose my house and business. I never thought it could be this way in this country. Something has to be done right now.

Jill Levine **OH** If you live in Ohio, please visit our web site and join us in our state wide cause.
www.spanohio.org

Richard **OH** Sounds good to me!!

Lori Shea **OH** The cost of health benefits has become outrageous!! It is about time we stand up against the corporate greed!!

Mark Sylva **OH** Take a Stand!

Ernest Guindon **OH** One payer full coverage health care along with good education and healthy environment are basic to responsible government of a citizenry, by the citizenry, for the citizenry.

Richard **OH** Sounds good to me!!

Joseph E. Powell **OH** To The Taxpayers: The population is not being served by the Private Health Care Industry. Our elected officials need to provide Public Health Care now. Our elected officials are mis-appropriating our tax money. Of 1st concern is the overall health of our population. The Private Health Care (so called) System does not work. The Private Health Care money being spent by the population is going into the pockets of the insurance companies and other medical professional services and not toward providing adequate Health Care to the people who are paying the bill / insurance premiums. The Insurance Companies will tell you that they are paying the bills. Hogwash to that since the money they pay the bills with is from the money paid to them in premiums. From the Insurance Companies' perspective, it makes good business sense to deny or delay paying money to Health Care Providers for Health Care Recipients. High deductibles also make good business sense to the Insurance Companies. It looks to me like the viewpoint of the insurance companies is that this racket is their own private gold mine and to hell with providing adequate services to the premium payers. Private Health Care Insurance (therefore Health Care itself) is unaffordable to vast numbers of the population. We are all, every one of us, worse off for it. This is wrong and needs to change now. Make Noise! Write to your congressman! Hurry! Make our government listen to us or throw all of the bastards out on the street - without benefits - without health insurance - make it unavailable to them. Joseph E. Powell, J. E. Powell Technical Services Company, Inc.

BARBARA GOODMAN **OH** THIS IS CRITICAL

Mari Engelhardt **OH** Sign the Kucinich petition for Universal Health Care to be presented to the DNC Platform Committee early in June. It's on line at www.kucinich.us/petitions almost 7000 already signed... tell your friends

OHIO Continued

Mary effler OH the Govt wastes billions of dollars every year starting wars & making bombs.... surely that money would be better spent providing decent healthcare for all of us citizens.

Jim Klosterman OH no money for the military-get single payer

Kathleen Swetkis OH How can it be that people who can't afford insurance are expected to pay the complete bill if they are hurt and need emergency care or hospitalization? If hospitals/emergency centers want to recover any money, they should have reasonable costs so that those uninsured people can afford to eventually make payments to cover their bills and that cost doesn't need to be tacked on to all health care insurance.

DAVID PAVLICK OH There are only three types of people in the USA. The uninsured, the underinsured, and the un-insured. Those of us who currently have insurance are only one serious illness, one job loss, one corporate change away from losing our health insurance. I walked 600 miles around Ohio last year in support of the Health Care For All Ohioans act, because I believe national health care will follow the actions of States. Information can be found at SPANOHIO.ORG

CATERINE J REIDLING OH CONGRESSMEN, TRY TO LIVE ON 700 DOLLARS A MONTH, WALK IN MY SHOES FOR 1 MONTH

Donald Rucknagel OH As a physician I can assure you that the medical care system is imploding as we speak. This issue's time has come. Either the Congress acts soon or the people will awaken from their slumber and take matters into their own hands.

OKLAHOMA

Sabrina King OK "A cheerful heart is good medicine" Proverbs 17:22. I think there will be many happy and healthy hearts once healthcare is readily available to all who are in dire need of it. In the land of opportunity, we should seek this chance to change something that is long overdue. We can change our future and the future of our children. What better way than by giving them a better chance at being healthy.

Michelle Young OK It's About time!

Fred Roper OK As a bankruptcy attorney, I regularly see how medical bills are destroying the working class. I find it immoral that we allow hard-working Americans to lose everything they have worked for -- their pensions and healthcare -- due to unforeseen and unforeseeable medical emergencies. Of those that file bankruptcy because of medical costs (which, by the most recent study, accounts for 54% of all bankruptcies), fully 70% of those had full-coverage medical insurance. What that shows is that even private for-profit "full-coverage" insurance is not preventing people from falling into insolvency. Obviously, we cannot keep going like this as a country. We need a national health insurance program that covers everyone and prevents tragic bankruptcies due to medical costs.

Darlene Roberts OK It's time to save the lives of Americans through healthcare those of us who cannot afford health insurance have no choice but to suffer through illness and many die from lack of ability to pay for health services

Callie Hunt OK There needs to be a universal basic level of health care available to all. Health care does not work as a "market driven" product. Competition does not make prices go down.

Sabrina King OK "A cheerful heart is good medicine" Proverbs 17:22. I think there will be many happy and healthy hearts once healthcare is readily available to all who are in dire need of it. In the land of opportunity, we should seek this chance to change something that is long overdue. We can change our future and the future of our children. What better way than by giving them a better chance at being healthy.

Martha A. Nelson OK Try being 69 years old and caring for your two 95 year old parents, suffering from senior dementia and other age related illnesses, at home. The only help available to you being two hours a week to bathe and dress them. For this help the "for profit" Home Health Agency is charging Medicare an exorbitant amount and paying the actual women that come to do the work a pittance. I can not and will not subject my precious parents to the cold-blooded care of a nursing home, at a minimum of \$6000 a month. There are thousands like me and we need a better system. Non-profit universal health care for all NOW!

Joni LeViness OK Let's joined the Civilized World and have HealthCare for all!

OKLAHOMA Continued

Michael Gammill OK This is the number one issue in this country, right up there with the deficits and debt.

Pat Penner OK My husband is self-employed and we have health conditions that prevent us from purchasing health ins. on the "open market" Fortunately, I was recently able to increase my part time hours at my job to purchase group insurance. However, we pay the entire premium which is about \$950.00 a month. Counting ins. premiums, co-pays, deductibles, etc. we spent \$18,000 in healthcare expenses in 2006! Our 27 y.o. self-employed son, has multiple health problems and no insurance so is unable to receive the care he needs. We are not in a position to help him. We are hard working people. We are not looking for a hand-out. What we are looking for is equitable treatment for all. As a former nurse, I witnessed the Pharmacy reps shower doctors with gifts of food, etc. when they came calling. I know that they have 2 lobbyists for every elected person on Capitol Hill in D.C. I believe that this most powerful lobby group has to be brought under control or completely stopped before anything else can change. Thank you.

OREGON

Dana Allen OR We need single payor healthcare NOW! The government should serve the needs of all Americans, not corporate profits.

Carol Bell OR No one should have to worry about whether they will be able to afford the health care they need. We need this now!

Marla Feinberg OR I'm a self employed person in late 50's, with two serious health conditions in the last 2 years. I take extremely good care of myself. My health insurance is \$527 per month, and I have to pay \$30 for each visit, including all tests on top of this. If I were to get sick enough to not be able to pay my premiums, I'd probably lose my house, and where does that leave me? Plus, as self employed people, how are we supposed to save for retirement so as to not be a burden to others?

James Ramsell OR I have been trying to help make universal health care happen since 1993. I helped write Measure 23 in Oregon. jim r

Edith Orner OR It is simply unacceptable that our country which considers itself a world-leader has millions of its citizens without health care. Where are our priorities? Lets get our act together!!!

Shona Dudley OR I am a member of IBEW Local 48, and I am so grateful to have good health insurance. It is just not right that so many Americans still can't afford basic health care. Thank you!

MARY KATHRYN KARPPINEN OR It is long past time to institute a national health insurance plan that will cover everybody in this country! I spent a year without any insurance coverage, and I am a diabetic. I was lucky not to have any major complications, however, many people aren't as lucky as I was. We need to cover every man, woman and child in this country as health care is not a privilege, IT IS A RIGHT!

Kay Warren OR I, especially, need "complementary" & integrated health care. Drug & cut doesn't help. I've struggled since 1968 to heal from a skull fracture & am still not functional.

william toll OR While Congress appropriates billions each day for a war in Iraq whose origins are shrouded in lies and which costs our country in blood, money, and international contempt every day, Congress has yet to create a public health care system that would guarantee every citizen and resident decent, standardized medical treatment and generic drugs. Every civilized country has such a system, however imperfect each of those systems may be. The drug lobby and the HMO lobby seem to have the majority in Congress in a campaign contribution noose, from which the public --especially our low income families-- is struggling to escape. Why are members of Congress so fearful of the military lobby that they have no problem voting billions for death, and so fearful of the drug companies that they won't even hold hearings whose outcome --a real public health system-- will prolong life?

Evelyn Martin OR We can do this if we all get behind it. This is unbelievably important.

Lise Brown OR If this bill passes, insurance companies will not go away. Americans could still buy Medicare supplemental insurance from those companies to buy additional benefits. The high administrative costs currently exhibited by insurance companies is a waste of money. Medicare for all will streamline costs.

OREGON Continued

- James Thayer, M.D.** OR Half measures may be well intentioned but are doomed to fail. We need a single payer system with universal coverage. All people living in a country as rich as ours deserve health care.
- Shauna Williams** OR At 27 I have just now started my own health care plan. For just me, one single person, I pay 178 a month...how could a single mom do that? Or even a two parent family? I have suffered and stayed away from the doctor, I still do. How can we be proud of a country that offers no health care to its citizens?
- William Thwaites** OR This is the health care plan we've been waiting for. Go for it! I'm glad to see that the health care insurance administrators will be compensated.
- Norris Thomlinson** OR See also the full range of Kucinich platform petitions to sign: <http://www.kucinich.us/petitions>
- Reid Seastrand** OR America #1 nation in the world? Non-healthcare is our calling card. Singlepayer will be our birthright entrance to #1 healthcare consistent with our potential as a nation. Reid L. Seastrand PS - In 1947 our family was living in Saskatchewan, and, as potential immigrants from the US, we received single-payer health care that was marvelous and without cost.
- Patricia Lopez** OR The private health care system that we now have is failing the people who it is supposed to help. Premiums are outrageously high and climbing. We are losing good jobs in America partly because of this. We have a right to expect good, affordable health care for everyone.
- Michael Kennedy** OR Now is the time.....
- Charles Gibson** OR Every other industrialized country has nationalized health care. Besides the obvious human reasons for HR 676, it would be a great benefit to American businesses trying to compete on the world market with other companies that don't have to pay for their employees' health care. (\$1500 of every car GM makes goes to pay employee health care; sadly they are reducing coverage.)
- Heidi Monson** OR I was in Europe recently and told people about America's healthcare system: coffee cans on store counters asking for donations for necessary treatment for people who either have no insurance or whose insurance won't pay for life-saving care. Without exception, they were utterly shocked. This country should hang its collective head in shame.
- Ted Minard** OR It's high time!
- Edith Orner** OR I spent 4 hours yesterday canvassing for a cand date for Oregon's House of Representatives. By far the main concern of all the folks I talked with was a NEED FOR HEALTH CARE!!
- Heidi Henzel** OR It's a national priority! A simple, comprehensive solution that fully and completely benefits and enriches our society. It's a dreadful shame to see our country deliberate on something so impeccably clear. This MUST be done NOW.
- Frances F. Kaplan** OR I have read that one in six people in my state (Oregon) does not have health insurance. Our country desperately needs universal health care coverage.
- Elisha Cofoad** OR I am diabetic and have had to fight to get insurance, to get my insulin, to get my insulin pump supplies and all the medical help I need and to see the Dr for years! I haven't been able to see an endocrinologist for my diabetes in almost 2 years because my HMO doesn't have one close enough to wear I live! This would be so great!
- Victa Collister** OR Health care is a universal right and should be provided by the government, with one universal system. No-one should have to face bankruptcy because of medical bills.
- Frank Turner** OR Single payer is the way to go. Control of capital investments, distribution of providers and facilities, and control of the specialty mix coming out of training will be required. Insurance company infrastructure and personnel will not be needed for billing and marketing; let's offer them the job of surveying medical outcomes and providing feedback to providers, plus a role in evaluating medical needs in various parts of the national community.
- Marla Feinberg** OR If we just re-organize the health care/insurance system, there is enough to cover everyone, without the paper work.

OREGON Continued

Carolyn Rousseau OR As a member of a 21st century government and nation, you expect to have health care and you do! As members of a 21st century nation, perhaps the richest in the world, we need, desperately, to have health care. Do your utmost to legislate health care for Americans. We all deserve it. This nation can only prosper when its citizens needn't declare bankruptcy because they have no health care or are under-insured for the health care they need. True national security demands a healthy citizenry. Thank you for attending carefully to universal health care for all Americans.

Jim Gouveia OR Affordable, accessible Health Care for all citizens...time we caught up with the rest of the world.

Jerry Reed OR How long must Americans wait for a National Health Care program like this? Citizens win, industry wins, the economy wins, the nation wins

Deborah Samuels OR All of my life I have wanted a national health care system, but unfortunately, I still don't believe it is ever going to happen, because the wealthy and entitled people who are running this country don't care about working folks. I am middle income, but I am single and self-employed. While I was working for hospitals and community home health as a nurse and therapist, I had benefits that provided health care. As a self-employed therapist, when my COBRA ran out, I had to fight tooth and nail for health insurance - because I had a few minor health problems that caused three different insurers to reject me. Now I have insurance, but my deductible is 2550 per year. This high deductible keeps me from getting some services that I really need but can't afford. And yet, I pay \$329 per month for this privilege! A hard-working and long-time contributing member of society should be able to get adequate health care without so much trouble and expense! Please sign this bill into law!

Kara Ford OR In the richest country on the earth we should be able to afford good health care. It's all about priorities.

Joseph Doherty OR As a Social Worker not only do I see the effect of no insurance, but I myself can not afford a private policy. What kind of message is this to the rest of the world about how we care for our own??? It says we value profit over human lives! Pretty shameful example from the supposed "leader of the free world!" ...

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malcolm drake OR we not only get poorer health care than other countries, but also we have the privilege of paying more for it. for instance, we pay about twice what Canadians do, per capita. Sick.

kendra stokes OR SOUNDS GOOD!

Malcolm drake OR we not only get poorer health care than other countries, but also we have the privilege of paying more for it. for instance, we pay about twice what Canadians do, per capita. Sick.

PENNSYLVANIA

Walter Tsou PA single payer now!

Edward Friday PA No permanent tax breaks to the wealthy. They have an obligation to support our country in a time of war and can easily afford their own health care

Cynthia Spielman PA Someone had written that it isn't a shame (lack of health care) but it is a crime. I have health care coverage (what I believed was an excellent package fought for by my union). But recently one of my daughters was diagnosed with a condition not covered by Blue Cross. It is disgraceful that companies can exclude certain conditions from coverage because the companies deem these individuals as too high risk (more than likely too costly). Is this a shame or is this a crime? Let's get health care coverage for all!

Candida and Barry Kaplan PA It is time all U.S. citizens have the healthcare coverage enjoyed by their President and Congressional leaders.

Roger Balson PA We need an active grassroots movement to make this happen. I urge everyone to start organizing in your communities to put pressure on your representative to make this bill law.

Robert Ebeling PA Level the playing field for US businesses. Afford every US citizen the security every European takes for granted. Stop the madness of unaffordable health premiums, drugs, hospitalization, health care. Give the people what they all need, want, should have, and stop the unbearable burden business must endure, the handicap that they carry like an albatross around their necks, the rape of the uninsured and the drain on their vision of the American dream should they get sick, the loss of protection welfare people fear to lose, the right that prisoners enjoy unfettered in our prisons. We need this care for our Nation, for our security, and for all Americans. I would gladly pay more taxes. I don't need the pittance of the last few tax breaks, keep it to make America healthy both economically, and politically and morally. thank you. Bob Ebeling

Robert Reinsmith PA It's about time someone cares about the working poor and middle class!!!

FRANK & LUCILLE REINHARD PA WE NEED NATIONAL HEALTH CARE NOW. WE GENEROUSLY SEND TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN NEED AND THEY SEEM TO HATE AMERICA. WHY NOT TAKE CARE OF ALL OF US WHO OBVIOUSLY LOVE THE USA. SR, CITIZENS HAVE SURELY EARNED THIS RIGHT, AS DOES EACH AMERICAN AS THEY REACH THEIR "GOLDEN YEARS"???

Chuck Barr PA I think it's a grand, fine idea to take care of everyone.

Tom Tomkins PA It is past the time when people have to decide between shelter, food or better health. If we are an enlightened society, there is no room for the darkness of greed.

Maria Somma PA As a mother of two boys, it is important for me to make sure they have access to affordable health care. Universal Health care is a right for everyone and not just for the privileged few.

Janice Curington PA How can the USA claim to be an industrialized nation, let alone a leader, without a national Healthcare plan?

Jennie Marsh PA It's our responsibility that every individual should receive healthcare. Our country can afford it and it is long overdue. We can make it happen.

Marilyn Mosso PA According to the Institute of Medicine, 18,000 people in the U. S. die each year because they had no health insurance. And most who have insurance are at risk of losing it. We have to act to make what is morally right also politically possible! Let's make it happen!

Robert Osborne PA Don't forget adequate coverage for rehab services such as physical, occupational, and speech therapies.

Eric Armstrong PA **As a recent college graduate who is unable to find work, I cannot afford health care. What happens if I get sick and can't work? My fiancé starves? I lose my apartment? How is that fair. I'm trying to start my life on the right foot, but cannot afford something as simple as keeping myself healthy.**

Kathy Maietta PA The United States is an embarrassment to the free world of nations who see health care as a right of all citizens.

Janet Hill PA Too many people have been impoverished either paying for health care or because they don't have health care. It's time to act.

Carol Knies PA We must start caring for the nation's richest resource -- ourselves! For the sake of present and future generations, we need Universal Health Care coverage for all Americans NOW. This is an easy decision and one that is long overdue. Let's recapture the success of the doctor-patient relationship that has been lost to commercial insurance companies' demands for paperwork and profit.

Marlene Kauffman PA Now is the time for everyone to support this cause. Thank you so much.

Jennifer Riesmeyer PA I had "employer insurance" and in a medical emergency I was left on a gurney in the hospital hall for over an hour while the hospital verified my coverage. I'm certain that if I had none, I would have been left to die. I also believe there would be more jobs in America as this huge cost for employers would be eliminated. National Health Care NOW.

Peggy Wood PA This will provide justice for all people.

- Aisha King** PA I am doing a project on why the United States should not use private health insurance and that we should use a universal system. This website also inspired me. But you should give people a chance to volunteer.
- Vincent Williamson** PA The US must adopt universal health care now and take health care out of the hands of HMOs, lobbyists, and others who only see profit. Caring for welfare and betterment humans should be the priority of the government at every level.
- Judith Aurin** PA We need to pass this. This Country needs a Universal Healthcare system. Too many people are dying because of lack of medical attention.
- Paul Glover** PA coop health care is contributing to the campaign for universal coverage while meeting immediate needs. See <http://www.healthdemocracy.org>
- Alan Horowitz** PA The naysayers say that it will increase taxes. But the money we pay to insurance companies is essentially a tax and a much greater one at that. The opponents are basically saying that government by, for and of the people is no longer a good idea. But at least in this case it's better than any alternative.
- Mike Dusak** PA Health care for everyone. "Everybody in Nobody out"
- John M Gleason** PA It's about time!!
- Walter Tsou** PA We have tried market medicine for 50 years and it has left us with out of control health care costs, 47 million uninsured, millions bankrupted by medical costs, and emergency rooms broken and overflowing. What better reason to say why we need a new paradigm. We need HR 676.
- Marietta J. Tanner** PA I am an octogenarian, with health insurance, but I cannot abide seeing all the young children and families without. It boggles my mind that our country should be not have universal health insurance since the well being of the least of us affects us all.
- Linda Marter** PA I believe that health care is a right of all citizens in a democracy, and I hope that by joining my voice with others, we can convince our legislators of this fact. Our society can only function to its fullest potential with the best participation of all of our citizens, and this can only occur when we are all healthy and focused on the challenges we face.
- Bob Hubert** PA We must transfer administrative costs to cost-effective care.
- Adam Rothschild** PA As a physician and medical informatician, I have spent many years of study and research trying to understand and improve the inefficiencies and inequities in our healthcare system. I have concluded that the only sensible solution to this problem is well-conceived and well-executed universal healthcare, such as is proposed in HR-676. While profit is essential to any free society, unfair manipulation of the political system for the benefit of corporations (and, yes, even their shareholders) must not be tolerated. This is even moreso when the cost of this unfair manipulation is paid for disproportionately by the taxpayers and less fortunate among us. Oddly enough, the person who convinced me several years ago that universal, single-payer healthcare was the solution is a manager at a major health insurance company. With three children and a stay-at-home wife, he surely values his good job with this company; however, he knows that universal healthcare is the right move and that he will find a way to productively employ his skills regardless of potential major corporate restructuring to accommodate such an ethically and imperative change. Furthermore, universal healthcare is needed for the economic health of our country, both to ensure the stability of large corporations and to encourage the formation of innovative new companies.
- Ellen Zucker** PA No one should face financial ruin as the result of illness. Our health care/insurance system is broken and must be fixed. HR 676 is the way to go.
- Paul gottlieb** PA Health care for all NOW

PENNSYLVANIA Continued

Emily Cleath PA I have a Master's degree but I also have a chronic disease. So because I can't find work in my field, my husband is held captive by his employer merely for the spousal benefits. Without his job, we'd be bankrupted by my medical costs. How is this the American dream?

Paul Deppenbrook PA To the Congress of the United States. I am a citizen of the U.S.A. the Constitution is supposed to protect me and others from abuse of government power. The Congress is supposed to make laws based on the General Welfare provision and to promote domestic tranquility for its citizenry. How is this to occur when almost everyone cannot afford basic healthcare. The congress went off the Hill/Burton standard and went to the HMO system. What a disaster. Congress is listening to business lobbyists and have forgotten its citizenry and its needs. Congress itself is committing high crimes and misdemeanors. The penalty for that is not re-election. To top all of this of Congress has allowed Big Business to rob its employees and retirees of the healthcare they worked for all their lives and are to old to do it again. Their pensions have been stolen as well. The congress has found time to change personal bankruptcy laws for the credit card companies and allows userous interest rates but allas cannot find time to legislate nationalized or single payer healthcare. For far to long the ordinary citizen has been ignored in the name of Globalization, it is a dismall failure that will DESTROY this great nation. Congress must act rationally now and begin to right the wrongs that have been done to its people. FIX HEALTHCARE FOR ALL NOW.

Teresa Welby PA We need single payer healthcare just like the rest of the civilized world. Canada loves their system and so will we.

Marianne Houff PA I REALLY hope this comes to pass. I'm worried about my future as an American citizen with such high health insurance costs. Thank you for your dedication!

Teresa Welby PA We need single payer healthcare just like the rest of the civilized world. Canada loves their system and so will we.

Jon Brams PA Make health care accessible to all Americans!

Hal Albert Smith PA Hospitals are supposed to be nonprofit and put people before profits. This does not happen with private managed healthcare. Healthcare is a public service like education. Please create publicly owned and democratically managed healthcare for all.

Colleen Wagner PA We need affordable healthcare for all American:. The people who are sick and who are lower wage earners are being punished here. They are making choices between paying bills or taking the medicines they need/seeing a doctor. No one should have to make that type of decision.

Renee Wright PA We all deserve health care not just the rich. I work full time and lucky to have health insurance for myself but I cannot afford to pay my employer for health insurance for my son. That is simply ridiculous. I have seen hard working individuals become laid off/let go and immediately lose their coverage. Too bad if they have life threatening illnesses or need prescription medication to live, right?. I have a hardworking friend who is raising her granddaughter and has no health insurance coverage at all for herself because her employer does not offer any. Maybe the rich do not know anyone who has these problems, they need to look outside of their wealthy world and see the real hard working people of this country. I hope one day they do not lose their jobs and see their health care coverage disappear or be diminished like the rest of us.

LaDonna Floor PA IT IS ABOUT TIME WE TAKE CARE OF OUR CITIZENS. WE TAKE CARE OF EVERY ONE ELSE IN THE WORLD AND NO ONE CARES ENOUGH ABOUT US TO TAKE CARE OF THE UNITED STATES. PUT OUR MONEY INTO PROVIDING QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES, THEY WORK FOR IT, THEY DESERVE GOOD HEALTH CARE. INSTEAD OF GIVING \$250 FOR BURIAL FROM SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS, PUT IT INTO HEALTH CARE AND HELP PEOPLE LIVE.

VEATRICE SCHULTZ PA We need better healthcare.

Michael Mueller PA Dear Representative: I support HR 676 which calls for universal national health care coverage for all Americans. I strongly oppose the bogus health care plan/scam "articulated" last night by "President" Bush in his State of the Union Address. I urge you to support HR 676, and would like you to know that I will in future vote only for candidates who do. Thank you.

Ruthe Karlin PA It's about time we did something about this. Our system is broke.

Heather Tindall, MPH PA For the amount of money that the U.S. spends annually per capita - just for health expenditures - our nation has NO excuse for not providing universal healthcare.

PENNSYLVANIA Continued

- Carrie Falk** PA Can't afford what we got, maybe this will help!
- Melanie Austin** PA Innocent children must have healthcare no matter what circumstances bring them into this world.
- Butch Burgoon** PA Americans across this great nation need to take a stand and support health care for everyone now!
- Calvin Walker** PA We need to be sure that we have a fair and equitable Health care system not just one that favors the wealthy.
- Calvin Walker** PA We need to be sure that we have a fair and equitable Health care system not just one that favors the wealthy.
- Lee Rensimer** PA How much longer until we decide 44 million w/o healthcare is unacceptable?
- Jean Friday** PA We must give all of our citizens the right of access to good healthcare and good health.
- Tom Sedor** PA We can not compete without this.
- Janet Green** PA Free our doctors, nurses and therapists to spend their valuable time and skills caring for people, not wading through 100s of different insurance coverage options and payment denials. Single-Payer efficiency--with regional administration--channels all that wasted money into actually treating the sick and preventing illness.
- Jennifer Walsh** PA I believe that medical care should be available to all regardless of race, age, sex, transgender or other status, income or no income, home or no home. The lack of health care for the poor is deplorable and leads to higher costs to all due to the use of emergency rooms by those who cannot afford a doctor to treat ailments that could have been prevented or treated before they become emergencies. I would be happy to know that my taxes were going to such a worthwhile cause.
- Stevan Drobac, Jr.** PA If National Healthcare is not a law on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 please vote out the INCUMBENT. Elected positions are not employment opportunities. All medical benefits paid for by tax dollars must cease and desist by the 111th Congress. Please show me where we the voter (employer) voted to approve medical and pension benefits for our elected officials. I do not want my tax dollars being used to pay for medical and pension benefits to an elected official who does not know how to vote for NATIONAL HEALTHCARE.
- HENRY D'SILVA** PA Implementing the healthcare plan that is right for the country is what is most important, not the plan for insurances, pharmaceuticals, politicians or corporations. Single payer tax funded healthcare privately run and publicly accountable is what is needed with proper monitoring to ensure quality, adequacy, safety, privacy and that everyone is treated appropriately cared for.
- David L Stermer** PA We need a good health care system in this country. We should have the same type of coverage that our government gave themselves at our expense, our government has no problem taking our good paying jobs & giving them to China & leaving us with low paying jobs, no benefits, no health care, our President & those that are opposed to us having health care should not have it themselves, then we could see what would happen.
- Beth Rockwell** PA As a Medicare beneficiary, I get very good health care. Why shouldn't every American have the same coverage?
- Joel Rosenblum** PA I know the HMO biz is great at lobbying, but even if all you care about is the corporatocracy, note should be taken that companies are finding it cheaper to move their facilities to Canada rather than pay the exorbitant costs of employee healthcare. Those are the good companies, of course, that offer health benefits. Not only is our current policy inhuman, it is not facilitating international competitiveness.
- Joseph Klutz** PA I am a physician and I support a national health insurance plan for my patients who are paying higher and higher premiums and getting less while the corporate executives of health insurance plans wallow in profits, excessive salaries and benefits.
- Rosemary Barbera** PA Not only is health care a human right that even many third world countries provide for inhabitants, it is a basic human dignity.
- James Young** PA Dismiss the obfuscations, please, and remove the insurance industry from health care decision-making procedures.

PENNSYLVANIA Continued

- Raymond Torres** PA support Bill 676
- Thomas Wagner** PA Healthcare for all now...it is a right not a privilege.
- Colleen Wagner** PA ALL AMERICANS NEED THE SAME HEALTHCARE WE PAY TO HAVE OUR GOVERNMENT HAVE NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!It is completely outrageous what is going on in healthcare. Companies are making MILLIONS. I know...my sister worked for one of them. And people are not getting covered. I have cystic fibrosis and only have 27% lung function left. I can not quit work as I am worried about benefits and the cost of the drugs I need. I would not be covered for two years after going on disability. What country allows this to happen to their citizens. I pay taxes, I deserve to not have to worry about my death while waiting for medicare. Once I did get medicare I probably could not afford that either because of the high cost of the drugs. WE NEED ACTION NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Americans please wake up...until this happens to you I imagine it is no big deal..but let me tell you...your day is coming. Pretty soon no one will be able to afford health care.
- Alice Bell** PA I work with substance users and hear stories all the time of people who use heroin for pain because they don't have health insurance and can't get prescribed pain medication!! This makes no sense. People who don't have health care end up waiting until problems are extremely serious and then go to the Emergency Room. This is so much more expensive for us as a society than giving people access to good preventative health care and primary care medical attention. Someone who I know, who works full time but has no health insurance, recently developed a hernia. Although he is in quite a lot of pain, he was told that because the surgery was not emergent, he would have to pay up front, several thousand dollars. So, he will basically have to try to work to save this money, or borrow it from some high interest lender. This is not way to run a healthcare system. Health Care should be a right, not a privilege.
- Brian Stagno** PA As a hospital based physical therapist, i have to constantly spend time justifying my recommendations to private insurers. Extending length of stays, issuing durable medical equipment, and recommending long term care placement are all an important part of my job. The denials I receive and appeal are stupefying -a patient with a new transtibial amputation was denied a wheelchair - before he was even ready to measure for a prosthesis, let alone show safety walking with it. For everyone to receive equitable care, and for me to get back to doing more patient care - those are my goals. HR 676 would help accomplish both of those goals.
- Harold Cohen** PA Single Payer is the only way to make health care affordable .
- Ann Silk** PA Medical students and other health sciences students overwhelmingly support single-payer reform. Last week, nearly 100 people attended a talk on single-payer healthcare, hosted at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine by the student group "Student Alliance for Healthcare Reform." There are too many uninsured and underinsured people out there, and there are too many barriers to care for those who have insurance. We need HR-676!
- Richard Ruff** PA Health should be for everyone in the U.S. Not just the rich.
- Jerry Sokolow** PA now, now, now
- Phil Gallagher** PA The VA healthcare system proves it can work.
- Tony Catanzaro** PA This is a problem that is long overdue to be fixed and if we stick together, NOW is the time to get the changes passed in Congress. American people have realized that it is our tax dollars being spent on Iraqi health care, but we need to take care of American citizens first.
- Jim Stewart** PA End the insanity-universal coverage now!
- Thomas Biernacki** PA spend the tariff money for universal healthcare instead of losing it to the rich
- Barbara Dickman** PA We need Universal health-care NOW.
- Edward Hobbs** PA This is the right thing to do. People cannot afford to retire because of health insurance costs, yet the current administration does nothing to take care of we the people. This has to change. We have been going in the wrong direction for far too long. We must make this bill more public to gain support. We must educate folks on the very possibility of making this happen. Let's all contact our representatives and make them aware that they are to serve the very people that elected them.

PENNSYLVANIA Continued

- Candice Rogers-Primus** PA Healthcare for all
- Angie Attinger** PA My Husband could die due to he stops breathing in his sleep and wakes up with chest pain. The doctors will not do a sleep study on him because of no insurance. SSI will not send him either. SSI just denied his claim for disability. His family Doctor says he needs to have test done immediately or this could be fatal. But no one will help. Please give us insurance instead of letting us die because we are poor.
- David Beckham** PA I am a vet and out of work at this time and am in dire need of dental and optometry services. Since I am not disabled I do not qualify for medical or dental care etc. It seems quite unfair that I can do my duty for my country when I have worn my uniform but under adverse conditions I can not get what seem to be reasonable services that all people should be able to have especially in a society that is into every culture in the globe. It should take care of home in every way possible first.
- jim vensel** PA I work at penreco in karns city pa, we are local 889 with the usw, our contract runs out on jan.31-05, the co. will not sign the 3 year ext. they want to screw us on health care, enuff is enuff, we the working people have to go to a plan like this...
- Sandra Fox** PA We need to do it right.
- Mike Greenwald** PA A single-payor, universal health care system is an idea whose time has come.
- Sandy Orr** PA Everybody In! Nobody out!
- Lawrence Wenrich** PA Its about time our greedy government and the elite force of the USA take care of their own sheople who do the nations work only to be discarded after being used and abused and left to the wolves to feed on for their lifes toils. USA not a #1 nation
- anne luepkes** PA I am currently without health insurance. I lived half of my life without health insurance It is a complete social injustice that 47 million are uninsured and underinsured in the Ur ited States. Please pass this bill. Thank you.
- Debbie Antoine-Thomas** PA I cannot even afford my medical perscriptions and i am a working person in the medical field. I take 5 perscriptions per month I often have to choose between half a perscription and groceries Something has to be done Lets hope and pray that this government wakes up and not only adresses health care /perscription coverage or lack of but do something soon today i have 4 children also and many times i buy over the counter products that co not help and this perscription cost etc is truly hurting all of us the uninsured the woking class and the ones who also have insurance because many plans such as mine u need to pay the whole price then and get re-mbursed 80% later where do u find the amt to get the perscription filled and to pay for it ist? Let em know i would gladly be intrested . WE need action now today not more promises
- Kevin Hefty** PA Every one deserves access to healthcare.
- Hsiao-ning Tu** PA A healthy population is fundamental for a healthy democracy!
- Magali Larson** PA Our insufficient and unjust private health system is bankrupting our health and our country!
- James Hardy** PA This would help all movements for progressive social change. Less time worrying about health care means more time working for justice.
- Nancy Adams** PA It's needed and the right thing to do.
- Edith Bell** PA Since according to all statistics, it will save money in the long run, let's do it now!!!!
- Sharon Geibel** PA It is time to do what should have been done decades ago!
- David L Stermer Sr** PA We need good affordable health care now.
- Ellen Zucker** PA It's unconscionable that people in this country do not have access to affordable healthcare.
- Mary Barr** PA This plan is practical, humane, and fair. The sooner we get it, the better!

PENNSYLVANIA Continued

Linda Kriger PA Please make this a priority. There is some hope, now, with Democrats in the majority, that we can create a sensible, effective and cost-savings single payer plan. The current hodge-podge plan is insanity. Even if the destitute and the poor don't have political leverage to influence a change in the way health care is delivered, the growing number of voters - middle and upper middle class - who are being caught in this insurance mess should create a sense of urgency for change. I have dear friends who are very prominent in our community, who are in danger of being without health insurance when his Cobra runs out. He has just been diagnosed with prostate cancer and they are scrambling to find a job that pay their health insurance. Please help!

Tammy Hendell PA My husband works at Penreco and they don't care about any raise. We just want them to leave our health care alone. We all have small children and they need the proper care. My husband has fought for this country in war, he deserves to live without fear for his children by having the appropriate care when needed. Imagine living your life not knowing if your children can be taken care of in case of emergencies or operations needed all because of health care issues. So lets all find new ways to help our children, don't take the privelege of leading a healthy normal life away from them just because of arrogance.

Stephen R. Keister, M.D. PA As a retired Rheumatologist I find it very sad that health care in this nation has deteriorated to one of the poorest in the Western World. I support Physicians For A national Health Care Program; however, I am not optimistic in getting HR676 through a Congress dominated by members beholden to the Insurance Industry and big PHarma. In the third Congressional District of Pa, we will have trouble defeating the very well financed incumbent.

Beryl Hellgren PA It is about time that the US had a national and affordable, all-inclusive healthcare system. It is downright criminal considering we are the wealthiest nation in the world, yet we do not take care of our own. Not only do the poor and indigent not have healthcare, but a large percentage of the middleclass can not afford adequate coverage.

Randall Quinn PA Canada's got it, so should we!!!!

sharon moran-sallam PA we shaould start taking care of the people in our own country. we dont have health insurance we pay more in medications then our 900.0 dollar a month rent. this is a disgrace.

Kathleen Winter PA As a healthcare professional for over forty years, I have observed the decline of the healthcare system in this country. While our technology has advanced and medical care is excellent, the system is actually a non-system. Heathcare is characterized by fragmentation of services, unequal distribution and access to services and increasingly dominated by a for profit business model which diminishes service to patients. As a nation which spends more than 14 percent of our GNP on healthcare we rank far behind other industrialized nations in significant areas of morbidity and mortality. It seems that health care has become a privilege for the few rather than a right for all citizens. A sad commentary for a nation which enjoys great wealth and power.

Joyce Rothermel PA As a food banker, I know that if people who are struggling economically had health insurance, they would have less need for food assistance from their local pantry or soup kitcl en.

Harriet Thurstlic PA I hope people realize that we are in class war and the very rich are never satiated. We'd all better get active or our children and, at the rate this administration is redistributing wealth upward, we will be no more than serfs, or cannon fodder for this administrations interminable war. The facts related to this war translate...Corrupt officials will always choose to enrich themselves at the expense of middle class and poor people. There is no reason why this the richest country in the world has no national health insurance.

Cary Lund PA High time!

Jerry Shilan PA It is about time.

Katherine Cunningham PA We need this healthcare 10 years ago. We need it desperately now. We are the only industrial country in the world with inadequate healthcare for so many of our people. Preventable deaths are happening because of it. People in this country are going without other necessities in order to pay for healthcare. People in this country just do not have resources to afford healthcare. HELP

Carol Holbert PA This is long overdue.

Stephen Kucsan PA If congress and the house of representatives don't act on this bill, then we should oust all of them and start anew.

Diane Mohney PA National universal health care now!

RHODE ISLAND

- Randy Oftedahl** RI It's way past time for America to join the civilized world and provide national health care for ALL!
- Peggy Poole** RI The Time Is NOW!!
- Kai Morrison** RI As a future medical student at Brown University I strongly endorse the passage of HR676. It is time that the United States is truly a land of life, liberty, and opportunity for all... without health care millions of Americans are being left out of the American dream. I urge you to not forsake our forefathers nor the future generations of this great country. Fight hard for the passage of HR676 NOW! Undernourished children and poor mothers cannot afford to wait out the political games of congress. Take a stand and lead our country into a healthier century!

"Until we devise a system that enables every member of society to gain equal access to quality healthcare, our claim to be the greatest country in the world will perpetually ring hollow."

-Tyler Zimmer

SOUTH CAROLINA

- Roger Finch** SC I'm a 55 year old white male living in the south. I work for a non-profit and do not have healthcare. It's funny how non-profits can't offer their employees healthcare because it would break their back. I do get \$2000 a year to buy it myself but I only qualify for a state pool that would cost me way over \$1000 a month without co-pays or drug benefits and a \$5000 deductible which I can't afford. I've been surveying small businesses in upstate South Carolina and find about 80% of those with less than 10 employees can't stay in business if they offer their employees healthcare. What's alarming is that 50 % of those survey are private physician offices! Let's do the right thing and support H676 and start the ball rolling for healthcare for ALL! Roger Finch, 864-338-1666
- Victoria Hucks** SC I have been a registered nurse for 12 years and I am currently attending the Medical University of South Carolina to further my degree. I am finishing a course in health care systems and policy and found your web site while doing research. I fully support this bill and would like to be involved if needed. I will start to contact my representatives in congress.
- yvonne harron** SC One month ago I had no crisis concerning health care in my life.... today... I face serious problems in this area as a 70 year old with only Medicare and a small SS check.... what a wake-up call!!!! We CAN do this, as others have proven.....!!!!
- TERESA WITMER** SC WE WANT HEALTHCARE FOR WHOLE FAMILY...TOO EXPENSIVE THROUGH COMPANIES!!
- Amy Horwitz** SC let's not waste any more time or lives
- Robert Gowan** SC Health care in the US is very simple don't get sick.If you were to get cancer as I have and you have to buy or change insurance companies you can forget it for 10 years.This is very scary but true.I can't believe this is happening every day and no one seems to be paying any attention.We need national health care NOW.It is sad to think you could die in the greatest country in the world because you can't buy health insurance.

SOUTH CAROLINA Continued

Jada Cox SC I am 30 yrs old and have been completely uninsured since I was 20 yrs old. I just fall between the cracks and I'm worried about my health and finances in the future if I need medical attention. Universal health care is a must.

Partricia Dachowski SC This is an idea whose time has come. It is a travesty that the greatest industrialized nation in the world cannot ensure that adequate healthcare is available to all its citizens, regardless of their ability to pay for needed services by healthcare providers. And by adding preventive care to the package we can save millions more, lives as well as dollars.

Tara Lowry SC We have a small business and health insurance is very important to us. My partner is a type I diabetic and went for years without insurance. Now that we have it we are struggling to keep it with the rising prices. My fear every month is that I will have to choose the roof over our head or health insurance. We desperately need national insurance reform before it is too late, but we also need to limit unnecessary medical lawsuits that only pay lawyers and not those that are sick. Also, as patients we need to educate ourselves about our own illnesses, as patients we have responsibilities to our own health.

Carole Benson SC We need universal, one payer system now!

yvonne harron SC One month ago I had no crisis concerning health care in my life.... today... I face serious problems in this area as a 70 year old with only Medicare and a small SS check.... what a wake-up call!!!! We CAN do this, as others have proven.....!!!!

Michael Culclasure SC It is outrageous that the richest country in the world is the only developed country in the world to not have universal healthcare for all of its citizens. Healthcare is a right, not a privilege.

maria kulmacz SC This is a question of basic justice and human rights. Please, America, you can do it!

Patricia Dachowski SC Because of a lack of affordable healthcare coverage I am at risk every day: I am a breast cancer survivor and also have been diagnosed with Hepatitis C. I cannot afford the out of pocket expense for costly checkups and lab work to determine if the cancer has returned; nor can I afford to pursue new and more effective treatments now available for Hep. C patients. STOP THE MADNESS NOW! Stop the manipulation by the pharmaceutical companies and do what's best and right for the majority of the citizens in this country and not just the elite few.

Arthella Larkin SC Everyone needs health insurance. The ones who do have it, pay out the nose for premiums and copays. Doctors and hospitals need to lower the costs because they are getting rich at the average person's expense.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Elsie McBride SD Young families are crying for help and often have to go for emergency care because they do not carry insurance. It is too expensive

Marla Muxen SD In this rural area, access to providers is limited, especially in mental health care and for specialists, such as rheumatologists and gastroenterologists. In regard to mental health, most insurance providers will reimburse only those with the highest level of licensure - e.g. the most expensive providers, limiting access even more. People with various forms of state funding are even further restricted to providers who will accept the lower payment. This is absolutely the most expensive way to fund care...My daughter, who was a special needs adoption, cannot see the practitioner I would choose because he is one of the few who will bill the state and his waiting list is about six months into the future. Meanwhile, we risk her getting worse or needing more intensive care by the time we can begin.

Diane Miether SD No one, whether rich or poor or in-between, should have to suffer poor health care or no health care in this United States. No one should have to live (or die) with a disease or injury because they couldn't afford to go to the doctor.

Elsie McBride SD Please, We need health care now!

SOUTH DAKOTA Continued

Elsie McBride
members. Shame on you!!

SD People are desperate. You should provide health care similar to what the congress has for its

Elsie McBride
Please work for better health care.

SD I know a woman my age (74) who still has to work as a nursing home aide-that is hard work- so she can pay for medical bills. I also know farmers who can't afford health care . we need a better health insurance plan.

TENNESSEE

Faye Parker **TN** I have Systemic Lupus & working 8-12 hr days is almost impossible @ times when the overwhelming fatigue & severe back & joint pain flare up. However, because I MUST keep health insurance, I am forced to continue to work full time in order to keep health coverage. I' m 57 y/o so have 8 more years of enduring this torture of working full time to pay for affordable health care before I am Medicare eligible. I need to be able to work only 6 hour's a day, but employers are not willing to pay insurance for part time workers. There are times I would rather die now than have to do this for 8 more years, but have an 84 y/o Mother with moderate stage Alzheimer's who needs me more than I need to die. There are other's like me who need health care coverage, but can't afford it & can't afford to change jobs & risk losing their coverage. I resent that my taxes pay for health care for other people, but doesn't do anything to help me, the one who is working sick to pay for their health care.

Kevin Cole **TN** There is a fundamental disconnect between the for-profit health insurance company's goal of increasing share-holder value and the availability of health insurance to people that might actually need it. The corporate funding of health insurance has failed the American people. I would like to add my voice to the growing chorus of people demanding a single-payer health care system in the U.S. Please support HR 676.

Frank Einstein **TN** How about spending our resources on health care for all citizens and residents of the U.S. rather than wasting it on military adventures that only cause untold suffering in the pursuit of oil. We need health care. We don't need war!

Russell Yttri **TN** I supposedly have a "Cadillac" health care plan and every year I pay more out of pocket and spend more time on the phone getting coverage straightened out. Time to get National Healthcare for everyone.

Mike Hordos **TN** We all deserve to be treated equally on health Care!

Robert Luedeka **TN** The amount of money I am paying to maintain major medical coverage as a non-insulin diabetic would pay for two whole families under a "single payer" system. I am paying an outrageous sum that is impairing my ability to support charities, or invest in commercial growth. While some feel, "He can afford it. Let him pay." This cost is having a detrimental effect on those I would like to assist.

Joyce Hordos **TN** Long over due to the people of this Country .

Willis Farris **TN** It has taken thirty years for Americans to begin to wake to the realization that it is managed care, not national healthcare, that has been the ruination of our healthcare system. Both presidential candidates in the 2004 election campaign offered only bandaids to bolster managed care. Presidents Nixon and Clinton tried to put forth a true healthcare reform agenda, but Congress would not get on board. I hope this campaign will not settle for another bandaid, nor for anything less than full parity in mental health care.

Robert Knowles **TN** The richest country in the world with half a trillion a year going to the military but we cannot provide health care for all Americans, especially the 47 million with no health care at all, most with preexisting conditions. It is immoral.

John Waller **TN** With privatization, the (mostly insurance company) providers are driven by profits, not care. Of course every company, doctor's office, and hospital has DIFFERENT forms and none of the same information seems to be shared. We also need a standardized form system under which information could be carried on a smart card.

Leigh Martin **TN** We also need money for research into the chronic diseases that will be facing the baby boom generation. We need to keep people healthy as long as possible, and not sick for long periods of time. Thank you for any effort that you may put forth to help. Sincerely, LAM

Lawrence Perian **TN** On most issues, I'm a Conservative and all for the free market providing the needs of the people instead of the government but I've studied this health-care issue as much as possible. I've come to the conclusion that the time has come to do what all other modern industrial nation has done. It's time to expand Medicare to all U.S. citizens. As a Conservative, I'm for small government but sometimes the free market can't meet the needs of the people. I see health-care being administered so much more efficiently and humanely for the same cost by a Medicare type system. How can anyone be against that? I've heard the Pros's and the Con's, no system is perfect, but we can beat what we have now. I understand that the majority of Americans want something like Medicare for all. If Americans want it and Americans are willing to pay for it and our elected Congress members are there to represent the American people then what's the hold up? The insurance lobby? We have more votes than they do and we can elect Congress members that will represent Americans instead of the insurance industry. Medicare for All will happen some day, so it's not if, but when. It's time the Conservatives in Congress to rethink this issue and get on board. I'd really hate to leave your camp but I want H.R.676 to happen even if that's what it takes.

J Hordos **TN** It is over due , Healthcare for all even if we all have to pay a fee. We have no health insurance ,we can't afford it on what we make. Everyone should be Treated the same not because he or she has more and is more important than the other person. We need HR 676.

jerry earl **TN** We do not wish to live in a country that does not take care of it's citizens and we will refuse to vote for members of a legislature that both encourage and permit it. All that is required for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing. That is what our voters and legislators have permitted. Jerry Earl

Joan Hill **TN** I am concerned about the 43 million without health insurance and what that means to those you have the privilege of access to health care. Do something before it is too late.

Joyce Hordos **TN** Have no insurance it is too expensive.

Becky Smith **TN** Universal Healthcare will eliminate a lot of stress for all parties involved and perhaps bring us closer as a nation instead of this constant division.

Joyce Hordos **TN** Have no insurance it is too expensive.

Mike Hordos **TN** We have no Health Ins. and can't afford it on what we make.

Skip Lovelady **TN** Please give all people a chance to have healthca re that is affordable to all and not just those who are in working groups, but for the self-employed. We need something affordable.

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Veronica Lovelady **TN** We definitely ununiversal healthcare for all, and not just for the rich.

Hilary Chiz **TN** Every man, woman and child in this country must have equitable and adequate health care now. Anything else is unacceptable.

judith Amatore **TN** being a civilized society we need to have health care for everyone

Perry Trimble **TN** Excellent

Marianne Reynolds **TN** It is a total outrage that we have hard-working people in this country that cannot get healthcare, healthcare insurance, or even afford healthcare! I lived in a country that took care of their citizens first and everyone who was working had socialized medical where you could choose the doctor you wanted and did not have to worry about medical bills. I got the best doctor's attention and medical care while there. They really cared about getting people well and not how much money they would make. For such an advanced country, why can't we take care of our working people and put our taxes to better use? Other countries are at least taking care of their working people. I am a US citizen born in the US, but I could move to another country if work permits and get some of the best care. This makes no sense!

Mike Hordos TN Health Care for all our People and Dental should be covered also. I can't afford what the insurance company's want. We are almost 60 and have no insurance, it is too expensive on our income.

Mary Copeland TN I am 27 years old, in my last year of college, and I have chronic kidney disease. I am in need of a transplant, but since I have no insurance I have been unable to move quickly in the transplant process. I've been turned down for TennCare twice because the "medically needy" category I would have qualified for no longer exists because of budget cuts. I applied for disability back in September, but I'm still not approved because of red-tape ridiculousness. I cannot get on regular insurance because of my preexisting condition - and I cannot afford the monthly premiums in any case because I go to school fulltime, and I do not have the energy to work. At 27 years of age, I have to depend on my father to help pay for monthly blood tests and doctor appointments - the rest of my money goes for food and prescription drugs. I may start hemodialysis soon, which will make me feel better - but Medicare doesn't kick in for another 3 months, and it won't cover the expensive anti-rejection meds I'll have to take for the rest of my life. There are many, many others in America in the same situation, and much worse off than I. The health of this country's citizens should be Congress' priority - not the whims of corporate interest, and by extension the executive branch of this government. Thank you, Rep. Conyers, for introducing this bill, and thanks to all who support it. I in turn am glad to support those representatives who will fight for their constituents' rights - equal-opportunity health care is surely one of the most basic ones.

Steve Walls TN This is the most important issue facing the country right now, and any politician who doesn't understand that is going to be in for a rude awakening come the next election.

Patricia A. Jaworski TN It's about time.

Curtis Markham, M.D. TN It is interesting to note that by dictating how doctors practice medicine in this country, the HMO's, private health insurance companies, Blue Cross/Blue Shields, private for profit hospitals and others have, by no small stretch of the interpretive imagination, been in violation of the "Corporate Practice of Medicine" so-called statute of the Medicare Anti-Fraud and Abuse legislation. I believe this attests to the nearly insurmountable political power of the lobbyists that represent these institutions, not to mention that of the pharmaceutical companies (who charge the rest of the world less for their products, while charging the USA more to fund there "R&D"). This seems a nearly impossible task...I can only hope this movement gathers strength and momentum!

Jennifer Tlumak TN Health care for all will make a stronger, healthier America -- both physically, emotionally, spiritually, and financially.

maureen organ TN I am a registered nurse and health care administrator (recently retired). I spent a huge part of my 37 year career finding ways to get "coverage" for the medical needs of patients in New York and Tennessee. If health care providers were freed from this laborious concern, there is no telling how much talent and skill would be freed up to care for patients-the impact would be wonderful and dramatic! This bill is the most sensible and simple approach to the problem i have ever seen. Thank you.

"We should be disgusted with the injustice of a system devised to insure precisely the people who don't need it (those who are healthy and can afford it) and turn away those should (the poor and chronically sick)."

-Tyler Zimmer

TEXAS

Vibeke Mendonca TX HR 676 presents the most rational, efficient and fair tool to provide the kind of universal health care access that is available to every citizen in all other industrialized nations. It preserves all that is good about healthcare in the U S and eliminates excessive cost and overwhelming insurance barriers. It makes it possible for citizens to get sick without going bankrupt and for physicians and other healthcare providers to focus on patient care rather than paperwork. Only when we all can access needed healthcare will we have a society that can claim to offer freedom and justice for all.

Joe Rager TX Recently I have had to drop all health insurance because of cost. My premiums had increased 18% in the past 6 months. I was previously paying 900/month for coverage for my wife and I. The premiums were to increase to 1080/month. I could not afford that. And this was provided thru my employer! I am a college graduate with a degree in accounting. Currently working as a computer, systems analyst for a small company in Texas. I have seen my premiums go from 200/month to 1000/month in the last 2 years. Something must be done. The American dream has become a nightmare.

Laura Nell TX I became disabled 10 years ago. My health insurance now costs me 40% of my monthly disability income, my prescription co-payments another 20%. Universal healthcare coverage is needed NOW!

Julia Gregory TX Stop ignoring the will of the people. If my niece had had access to health care, she would not be in jail for forging prescriptions for pain medications. She would be home taking care of her 8 year old son. Our current system is turning citizens into criminals or invalids. Enough.

Mae Whaley TX We as a nation need affordable healthcare for all now.

Rozanna Francis TX Health care in this country is in a horrible mess and no amount of lip service will keep it from getting worse. Government's role is to do for us what we cannot seem to do for ourselves and to curb unfair practices of those who would enrich themselves on the backs of the poor.

Ameenah Sabour TX It is so sad that a country as rich as the USA would not provide adequate health care to its citizens, especially the elderly.

ALVA BAKER TX This is long overdue.

Diana Kimble TX Reparations Now!!

vickie washington-nance TX Let's GET THIS DONE!

Rhonda Ybaben, RN TX I have a friend who's son has a brain tumor. He's only 19. Just out of school and no insurance. Got sick and had to quit working, lost his insurance before he was diagnosed. Getting the "run around" from MD's on treatment. It's a disgrace!! He is a beautiful, intelligent young man and needs help now!!

Donna McWaters TX The comments of the signers of this petition are very inspiring! Make sure your congresscritter and your senators know how you feel! Go to www.house.gov and www.senate.gov to send email. You can find your critter with your zip code, if you don't know them. Just Do It!

Leonard Baker TX Its' time to bridge the gap between the "Have's and Have Not", everyone deserve to have medical benfits who were born in this county. It's ridiculous that immigrants can come here and get better treatment (medical benefits, housing etc).

Shonteel Cummings TX My health and everybody else's matters!

Bonnie Sandberg TX Too many fully employed people cannot afford or get health insurance. We are in a health care crisis.

CC Russell TX I will be 47 in 2013, my kids 14 and 10 -- we already pay 20% of our income for health insurance.

Adriana Castro TX Our American Health Care now is DETERIORATING! Lets take a stand with this new system!

Donna Barber TX The US with its supposedly elevated standard of living is put to shame by other nations who's citizenry have national healthcare benefits.

James P. Miculka TX The time has come. NOW!

TEXAS Continued

- Trish Taylor** TX Cuba has a higher life expectancy than the US. The reason?---they have universal health care. Castro takes better care of his people's health than the US government. This is a national disgrace.
- Doug Gerash** TX Time to end medicine for profit
- Nancy Bean** TX Our lack of a universal health care system is national shame and a national disaster.
- Frank Valdez** TX I think that Dr.King said it most eloquently: "Of all the inequality, injustice in healthcare is the most shocking & inhumane"
- Frank Valdez** TX For far too long the people of the United States have been misled, lied to and denied our basic human right to REAL healthcare! H.R. 676 is the only viable bill introduced that fully addresses the healthcare needs of the American people. The Coalition For Universal Healthcare Rights in San Antonio proudly supports H.R. 676!
- Julia Gregory** TX So many of our nation's problems would be solved if we only had a healthcare system for all. And we need to do it soon.
- Caroline Finstein** TX It's time for universal coverage and NOW!! Too many people in America are tax paying citizens who can't afford insurance. So many other countries do a better job, it's our turn to improve.
- Cindy Morris** TX It is time for all Americans to have equal access to health care. Too many go without medical care and medications simply because they lack the money to pay for health insurance. I personally work in a job that I am over qualified for and make absolutely no money just to have health insurance for myself and my family. I work in a non-profit social service agency and I see hundred's of people every month that go to the ER because they can't pay for a dr visit and then they come to this agency to pay for their medications. It is really very sad because we can't always help. Americans need to stand up and demand health care for all people, not just the rich!
- Joe Rager** TX Finally. An organized approach to solving a terrible, terrible condition in the United States!!!.
- Teri Hogan-Andrewin** TX Health care for all and not just for some is a Basic Human Right and it is time the Congress of the United States address this issue and pass HR 676 so all its citizens that live in this great country of ours can be afforded the dignity and security of having health care coverage, not just the more fortunate of this country.
- Farheen Qurashi** TX As arguably the most powerful, wealthy, and strongest nation in the world, it is our responsibility to provide for our people. A new single payer system would provide health coverage to all people of America and even reduce the healthcare costs we already are under. There is a problem with healthcare in our country today and something NEEDS to be done to fix it!
- Donna Laubhan** TX I hope it's not just too good to be true -- we have to have universal health care soon and this looks like the right way to start.
- Shirley Smith** TX We need to be in the business of saving lives, not taking lives.
- Diane Wilson** TX An organization based on Common Sense change, is also sponsoring a contest for a common healthcare platform. Their website is: www.sinceslicedbread.com. Thanks - please keep this one going, and get the Senate to not blow this.
- Traci Waller** TX My coverage on my father's health insurance runs out when I turn 22. I am a college student. I work full time with no benefits. It will be October before I can afford health care. I only hope nothing happens to me in the meantime, and I can't imagine the stress an absence of health care must place on those who must go years and years without it. It only makes sense to make it available to EVERYONE.
- Rael Nidess, M.D.** TX I support single-payor health care and an end to the money wasting, illness promoting, scheme of private insurance.
- Daniel Stevens** TX Many Americans are being saddled with huge medical debts including my own family. Many are also being denied services by health insurance companies. Its time we changed this and made sure we have a health plan for all Americans.
- Rose Christian** TX My son works in two jobs in California, yet the health insurance he buys does not cover his prescription medicines, which amount to over \$100.00 per month. I hope this bill passes in time to help him.

TEXAS Continued

Dennis Spath TX I'm covered by Medicare and get drugs at reduced prices thru the VA. I foolishly lost more than \$70,000 in the stock market with my own self-directed IRA and dropped my retirement Health Coverage since it was costing me \$115.00 a month and they didn't pay anything on any procedures or hospitalization covered by Medicare Part B. And I'm LUCKY, because I'm in relatively good health and have Medicare and VA coverage even though I can barely survive financially. It is criminal that in America we're spending close to Eight Billion a month in IRAQ and 45 Million Americans must go without adequate Health Care!

Cindy Morris TX I am a Social Worker and where I work I see at least a hundred people a month that have no insurance with major medical problems. They come to us to get help with paying for a doctor and prescriptions. I work in a very small rural town so I can imagine what it is like in a big city. We don't have the resources to help these people with what they need--Health Insurance! They get desperate and go to the emergency room that they can not pay for which puts a drain on everyone. I myself have a serious illness and have to work at a very low paying job just for the insurance. After I pay for rediculously high gasoline just to get to my job I have very little money left to pay my co-pays and prescriptions. I work totally for the insurance. Very few employers offer insurance so what choices do people have? This country needs a Health Plan that will cover all citizens and it is needed now and not years from now. I will be watching how my government listens to the people and will vote accordingly. If enough people vote then the people will get the right people in office. I am asking, no begging, for you to please pass HR 676 so that more people will be able to get the health care that they need and deserve

Victoria Meek TX As we brag to the world about how superior our way of life is, millions of Americans die daily because they can't afford adequate health care and end up dying from curable illnesses. This is a tragedy that must be remedied. No legislator with a conscious should tolerate this situation while enthusiastically authorizing the expenditure of billions for people in foreign lands to have what we are denied.

Farheen Qurashi TX As a medical student that sees patients everyday go without medication or healthcare because they have no insurance and can't afford out-of-pocket, or come to the emergency room with a cold that got out of hand because they have no primary care physician, I need to see HR 676 come into action. No longer can we sit around and watch our own citizens be forgotten and mistreated in the current system. Something needs to change, and as a medical student who pledged to "help people," HR 676 is a bright light in this dark world of poverty and disease. As a future physician, I support HR 676.

James Hardwick TX Denial of access to healthcare should NEVER become an "American " value. C'mon, let's join the rest of the civilized world and embrace this basic RIGHT that all citizens should have.

melinda hendrick TX Healthcare reform will bring physical as well as economical benefits in the long run.

Alan Harvey TX The current healthcare crisis is unacceptable; however, with for profit insurance companies pushing for higher profit margins from shareholders, hospitals are squeezing costs at the most critical areas--staffing, supplies and equipment. The patients (ie you) see less time from nurses, therapists etc while the profit margins increase. The current reimbursement method received from facilities is completely different from the reimbursement received by physicians. Hospitals receive a flat fee, called a DRG. No matter how long a patient is in the hospital or what is done, only one flat fee. In comparison, the physician receives a fee for each time he/she enters the patient's room for "care", each day. A single payer system could right this great imbalance and cover the millions of people with no insurance or very little.

Grace Patricia Tamesis TX Health insurance and access to quality healthcare for all the legal citizens in the world's richest super power is a right and not a benefit. We need the political will to redefine health as such.

Joy George TX Each of us deserves healthcare not just those who can afford it. The time is now! We need health coverage for everyone. Not just those who can afford it! The time is NOW! Joy

Ben Goff TX Universal health care is long overdue

Patricia McGough TX it is time for everyone to have quality, affordable health insurance.

Rick Potthoff TX Excellent!

TEXAS Continued

- Karen Springston** TX I am a minister and a Vet. and have no health insurance or dental. I desperately need several teeth extracted and cannot afford the fees.
- Resa Harrison** TX I can think of no other priority for America as important as better health care. We need universal coverage for all. Health care should not be a privilege for the rich.
- Suzanne Bennett** TX It is time for our government to stop pandering to special interests and pouring our hard-earned tax dollars into the pockets of Bush's friends, family, and cronies. Our tax dollars should meet our needs first and then provide assistance to those in need worldwide. Halliburton and the like can take care of themselves. I have been without health care for over ten years. It is time for our nation to use the money the citizens put into the system to meet our needs so that we don't have to just cross our fingers and hope for the best every time we go out in public, drive a car, cross a street, etc. We the people demand it!
- Lori Smith** TX I pay taxes to support other people on medicaid, while still paying for my own insurance too. My taxes could instead pay for my own health insurance.
- tim pagel** TX the same health care coverage for all citizens as bestowed to our less than deserving politicians (congress, president) is the starting point, then continual improvements.
- CandiAnne Shafer** TX Government should offer healthcare, it's only right. But I beg of Congress, don't give the civilians the same bad health insurance you give the military. Give them something better.
- Ron Mize** TX This has been a long time coming...let us pray this bill comes to fruition.
- Sharon L. Corl** TX As a United Methodist Woman, my mission is for health care for the women and children of this country.
- Asanka** TX Imagine all the people who can take risks and make the world better, knowing there is at least some way to get decent health care for their families. The high cost of health care is driving a lot of would be inventors, teachers, volunteers, entrepreneurs, artists to mind-numbing, soul-breaking corporate clone jobs... Imagine!
- Rael Nidess, M.D.** TX A single-payer, or National Health Insurance program (either one) is long overdue!!
- James Hardwick** TX Let's do it!
- Esther Moses** TX An affordable National Healthcare Plan is urgently needed.
- Jeffrey Theut** TX Healthcare is a basic human need. Universal national healthcare should be a basic American right.
- Christine Ward** TX My husband has insurance with the company he works at. The coverage is so expensive though that we can barely afford to pay our bills. The hot summer months have been devastating to our finances. I have found myself crying every time I look at our bank account. He makes OK money, but the insurance is 25% of our income! If we're having so much trouble, I can only imagine someone with a family that makes even less than we do trying to keep a roof over their head and insured at the same time. It must be impossible. Thanks to Bush's legacy and his protege Perry in Texas, hundreds of thousands of low income families are now without any insurance at all (and more all the time). We don't need HOPE...we need HELP!!!
- Cary Stanford** TX This country desperately needs an overhaul in the health care system. Vote for HR-676 or be voted out of office!
- Alan Ward Jr** TX Let's get this done! Our families will be forever grateful. Thanks! A.J.
- Douglas Cain** TX It is cruel and unusual punishment to deprive people of universal health care.
- Erica Gray** TX I am a single mother of three that can't afford health insurance. Yet I have never asked the government for a dime. I think it is worth mentioning just 3 factors on why we need universal health care: (1)the uncertainties of gmo foods that we are all eating.Whether we like it or not because they are not labeled. (2)We should consider the rate at which the FDA constantly recalls drugs and chemicals that they had previously approved. (3) And for God sake, the disgusting manner in which our(factory)farm animals are being raised with added hormones,antibiotics,other drugs and animal byproducts(when is the last time you saw a calf drank cow blood? Experts in Europe are now estimating approximately 100 in a million "might be"incubating vCJD and are consulting with our government officials about blood safety. Need I say more? We better get a system going in which we all can get basic care!

TEXAS Continued

Taquilla Earnest TX We need this more than you think. Dental is one of the most problems that people cannot afford please help us for our health

Susan Welch TX I am a Nurse Practitioner at a Dialysis Facility. Many of my patients are on Dialysis because they lacked adequate Health Insurance and medication coverage. Now they do have Medicare to cover the cost of their very expensive dialysis treatments. How much cheaper it would have been to prevent their kidney failure in the first place!

Eugene Schurter TX The stress of dealing with individual healthcare is unbelievable. I spend \$12000 per year for my wife and I - and we get so little for that \$. I believe that the USA is the greatest country in the world but in the case we are a shame and a sham. Its time we do what's right and I believe this pending legislation is the answer we have been looking for.

Janice Sims TX I passionately believe that a single-payer, not-for-profit national health care system is long past due. Under our current hit-or-miss health care racket Americans are denied services, quality of care is questionable, and the mountain of paperwork involved is breathtaking. Health care insurance is one area of service where the private sector has repeatedly proven itself woefully inadequate.

Theresa J. Steed TX We need an Universal Health Care from birth til death, that is true, and we are pay out a huge price for health care and drugs. They both are so expensive, many people really can't afford health care. Most of the industrial nations have complete health care. We are the nation lagging behind in that field. Those socialist countries, like Canada, England France, and Even some one would not believe.... anyway, it is time to grow up in our care for our people and our children, they are the leaders of tomorrow. Regards, Theresa J. Steed Quechick007@yahoo.com

Rael Nidess, M.D. TX Diverting hard-earned income into the pockets of insurance company executives and into funding make-work paperwork rather than for delivering high quality healthcare must cease. A single-payer national healthcare plan is long overdue.

Laura Bramlette TX I sent you a letter by separate e-mail re: an idea you may want to add to your plan and HR 676.

UTAH

Joseph R. Inman UT Universal Health Care's time has come. Insurance companies bring nothing but more illness to health care.

Jason Sokol UT Thanks for the effort on this critical issue.

Jeff Tiberend UT Excellent Site! No one should have to go through a bankruptcy over medical expenses. What happened to "Compassionate Conservatism?" We have to have the ability to "think outside of the box" to fix our country's healthcare crisis!

Kelly Garrett UT As a psychologist in hospital-based practice, I support this healthcare reform. I am sobered by the amount of WASTE that occurs at my hospital. Our budgets are so tight we can't buy pens that are safe for patients, yet so much of my time, and scored of offices are filled with bureaucrats trying to bill and receive money. Reform is needed now.

Debra Williford UT I believe health care should be for every citizen.

Laura Bonham UT We will have single payer health. It is only a matter of time. The question is how many more will die or become ill from lack of insurance before it happens? Lets do it now!

VIRGINIA

- Melanie Harrison** VA God speed to this movement! We shouldn't go another day where 50 million Americans have no health insurance. And we can budget \$450 billion for defense spending? Wake up US Congress!!!
- charles west** VA visit my website at www.richardpettylookalike.com
- Mickie Foster** VA It is time to stand up and demand fair health coverage, without the corporate gouging.
- Steve Lilly** VA Spend the bucks on Healthcare, NOT bombs.
- Robert Young** VA We need a single payer plan that provides at least a sound minimal level of basic care for all, so that areas with much lower incomes (e.g., Kerala, India) no longer have higher levels of health care than our nation's capital!
- John Cole** VA For a start, we need to disarm to the point that we only spent the same amount every year as the 10 next most militarily powerful states. Then we can afford medical care for all, which will in turn aid our private sector enterprises and local and state public service organizations in every sector of our economy.
- Huel Meadows** VA The logic of enacting this legislation seems so obvious. We will spend less to cover more Americans, and our citizenry will be healthier and more productive. We now spend incredible amounts of money on insurance administration in thousands of insurance companies, money that could instead be spent on prevention and care. Please enact this legislation.
- Chris Morin** VA How can members of Congress enjoy health care insurance without worrying about its cost and not consider HB 676 as an answer to the 45 million uninsured and the millions of others who struggle every day to pay health insurance premiums. I know too many people who have died because they never went to the doctor or they couldn't pay for the tests. I know too many people, including my children, who do not have health insurance. The industry is out of control. You must pass this bill.
- Anne Noble** VA My niece was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes at the age of 16 months. Fortunately, she has access to (and the means to afford) quality health care. I fear she would be dead or disabled by now if she did not. No one living in this richest nation of earth should ever be put in that position. Please pass this bill.
- Martha de la Rosa** VA I support the effort that you as a government-guaranteed National Healthcare System for All. It is really important. All people can be given a good Healthcare. Blessings.
- Richard W. Firth** VA I find it inexcusable that nothing is being done to get this noble and life saving legislation out of committee and on to the House floor for a vote. I also find it hard to believe the talk about doing something about health care costs and no one mentions H.R. 676 in the process. All these congressmen who claim to be pro-life, I ask what about the 18,000 Americans who die each year because they can't afford insurance or health care. Aren't their lives just as important as the unborn babies who unfortunately are aborted? If one is truly pro-life, he must be for all things that save, protect and enhance life, not only for the unborn baby or ending mercy killing but for all areas in between as well. Therefore, get this bill out of committee and get a vote taken.
- Neill Dumont** VA I am encouraged that there is a growing impetus towards single-payer universal health care and encourage you to support it.
- Jared Shenk** VA I live in the 6th Congressional District in Virginia and would like to show my support with others in my region for HR676.
- Neill Dumont** VA Health care is a right, like education, that elected officials should legislate into existence for their constituency. The case for a national single-payer universal health care system should be evaluated on how it would serve Americans first, without relying overmuch on the influence of pharmaceutical companies and HMOs. Please support a national healthcare system
- Andre Peery** VA I am preparing to run for the US House of Representatives in the 6th District of VA and Health Care is at the top of my list of issues that need immediate attention. I will vigorously promote HR 676 in my campaign, it is the right thing to do, and the time is now. Americans deserve to be treated like citizens of the greatest superpower in the world.
- Monica Butts** VA I have several pre-existing conditions & no health insurance. I have either been denied health insurance or quoted to high of a premium that I couldn't afford it.
- K B Pollock** VA Please REJECT President Bush's plan, which is just another one of his schemes to benefit the rich, and SUPPORT HR 676, which will benefit those who need it most.

VIRGINIA Continued

Dana Hoffman VA My husband has a variety of chronic illnesses from Hep C to diabetes, major depression, and sleep apnea and he is uninsurable. I have to work 2 fulltime jobs to try and make ends meet and 1 job goes to his medical alone. He is going to die if he cant be taking care of and I pray I keep my health so that I can continue to care for him. This is sad when we can give all these other countries billions of dollars for health care and relief and yet we can not take care of our own.

Charles Cranwell, Jr. VA I don't know if this is the answer but, at least it is a start.

Nancy Neal VA Get rid of for profit medicine. Insurance companies should not make money on illness. We spend 2X as much as other countries do and all their people all covered, while 47-60 million of our citizens are uninsured or underinsured. There is only one answer...cover everybody

William Hughes VA It is time for America to join the first world of nations and provide for the basic national health care of our citizens

Charles Kayser VA Just as the Constitution says to "promote the general welfare" right after "provide for the common defense", so too should the country see the health of its citizens just as important as the defense of its citizens, a right that is not disputed. We cannot afford not to ensure everyone's health, from almost any perspective you can think of. From an economic perspective, it'll end the vicious cycle of the "scraping by" workers unable to afford even the preventive care they need, resulting in costly emergencies or even death (each worker too ill to work becomes a taxtaker instead of a taxpayer). There's also the much-needed simplification of the process (and its associated savings). From an international perspective, we wipe the proverbial egg off our face from looking like an international laughingstock. From a trust perspective, healthier Americans will be more willing to support the government, particularly in times of multiple crises such as now. This is government of, by, and for the people, is it not?

Sherry Stanley VA I am willing to do whatever I can to help this effort --- have even considered running against my Congressman on this issue alone. VA has only one Representative signed on. We have to do better.

Richard Huffman VA The question isn't "do we give everyone the multi-million dollar treatments," that's just a smokescreen. The question is, can we morally justify ignoring both people who need health care who don't have it, and the corrupting influence on our society as a whole, and the medical establishment when we allow people who can't pay to suffer unaided?

Shaun Michelson VA America is the only industrialized nation without national healthcare. Stop the madness. Nationalize healthcare.

Lorette Picciano VA My brother has MS and his insurance company gave him a wheelchair instead of physical therapy. And he is only one of many people who are not getting the care they need to live productive lives. Healthcare Now shows us there is a better way!

Dianna Sponaugle VA It's about time.

Irina Scemelova VA Health care must be affordable, everyone who has a Social Security number has to be eligible for affordable health care, should not depend on employer's plan. People need freedom in receiving health care. People are not free, they are stuck with their health problems and corporations are allowed to make money on hopeless. More than that: children should get it for free - they are the future of the country.

Nedra Cuffee VA I am proud to live in the land of the free, but living here could be sweeter if everyone had access to quality, affordable, accessible health care.

Wendy Ebersberger VA It is not the job of Congress to support the insurance industry - no matter how large its campaign donations may be. Stop forcing people to gamble with their money when they pay premiums with no guarantee of coverage or with their health when they go without insurance. How do you sleep knowing that those who pay for your guaranteed coverage can't similarly protect their own families??

Neill Dumont VA I believe that healthcare is a right. There should be no one in the U.S. who doesn't have access to the best possible medical care. And how long will the U.S. be willing to pay the most in medical costs per capita with medical care well below that of other countries? Single payer health care now!!

Charles Andrews Equal Care for All!

VIRGINIA Continued

Richard W. Firth VA There is no excuse for 18,000 Americans to die each year because they can't afford health care or insurance. I challenge pro-lifers to meditate on that fact before going against this plan. I have Medicare and Part D with a supplemental plan which pays just about everything so I know it works and would be a blessing for you as well.

Christina Mitton VA This needs to happen and it needs to happen NOW!

Eileen O'Brien VA The U.S. needs to catch up with the rest of the industrialized nations of the world on this one! WE are leaving way too many of our citizens behind, and our infant mortality rate and cost per capita on health care stats, for example, show it. Powerful monied special interests need to stop getting in the way of our nation's health!!!

Charles Kayser VA The current situation, unfortunately, favors status quo. Lobbies (particularly backed by huge industries such as health insurance) can use the "bullhorn effect" to drown out individual voices that more clearly reflect the majority of Americans. It will take something so ostentatious that it cannot be ignored--something akin to the March on Washington, perhaps. If an organization were arranging a massive demonstration of the struggling uninsured--and do it before Election Day, healthcare could suddenly become a hot-button issue, an election-turner. If this doesn't get the issue passed, it's hard to imagine anything that will short of a revolution.

Kathy Lineker VA Most of my \$8000 credit card debt is for medical insurance premiums and medical bills.

Adam Thompson VA It is deplorable to think anyone would be against health care for all.

VERMONT

Sandra Bettis VT this is the RIGHT thing to do!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Allan Arthur VT My wife and I have Medicare and we pay \$84 per month for a state-run drug plan that wraps around Medicare D. We live in fear of this plan being cut and premiums rising to where they are not affordable. Or needing cancer drugs that cost thousands per month and would not be covered because they are not maintenance drugs. Only lower-income people are eligible for this program, creating a moat to keep people in poverty. Have one dollar too much income, and you are out. We would be facing about \$12,000 per year in drug bills less what Medicare D would cover. Of course, there is always Medicaid, but why should people be cast into deep poverty for life because they need care. What kind of country treats its people this way? Costs are so high that many people are going to other countries. "Sixty Minutes" calls this medical tourism. This will leave local hospitals with the poorest and sickest people and nowhere to shift the costs that Medicare doesn't pay. Well off people ask "Why should I pay for someone else's health care?" The answer: civilization. Poor people pay regressive sales tax, property tax, and fees to provide Cadillac insurance for teachers and state employees. In the state property-tax rebate program, money deducted for Medicare and premiums for the state drug plan are counted as "income" but public employees' health insurance, valued at over \$12,000 per person per year, is not counted.

Jeffrey Barrett VT It's about time this country got with the program. The USA should be #1 NOT #38 in Health.

Allan Arthur VT The current system makes no sense. We have been waiting at least 30 years for universal care. How many more years do we have to wait?

shauni Kirby VT it is a shame that i have to wade through 2 weeks of red tape every time i MUST see a doctor. my mother died of cancer, and i NEED to have check ups to make sure that the pre- cancerous tumor that was removed from me (at 23 years old) has not come back. We have a serious health care problem...and we need to get serious about fixing it.

Gwendolyn Trumbull VT It's time now! It was time years ago.

Paul manganiello VT The present manner we finance health care is unsustainable.

Mike Garaffa VT Now is the time.

VERMONT Continued

Marjorie Power VT The way this country pays for health care creates all manner of distortions our economy and for the quality of health care provided. Employers who offer health insurance have to compete with the lower costs of those who do not. Workers are unable to change jobs or pursue careers they really want because of fear of losing their health insurance. Health care providers cannot practice to the highest standards because of the pressures of insurance companies to do less: less preventive care, less experimental care. What other country has billboards advertising hospital by-pass surgery? What other country has to have laws to prevent the "dumping" of women in labor and emergency cases? What other country pays so much and gets such poor outcomes for its expenditures?

Scott kirk VT we are seeing the destruction of the middle class in america because of health care costs...they are the backbone of america...

Cynthia Haviland VT Having health insurance is not a luxury but a basic human need. Its time we took our healthcare from corporate america and put it back into its citizens hands!

Paul Manganiello VTIn an October 16, 2006 Washington Post article, Joshua Freed reported that the chief executive of one of the largest health care companies, UnitedHealth Group, William W. McGuire, was stepping down because he was suspected of backdating \$1.6 Billion in stock options; not Million, but Billion! This is while 45.8 million Americans are uninsured. Where is the moral outrage!!!! This past December 6, 2006, Kai Rysdale was interviewing Newt Gingrich on National Public Radio (NPR). During the radio interview, Mr. Gingrich was offering his plan as how to finance health care. He was obviously not in favor of a government financed system; he felt that government was incapable of doing the job. Mr. Rysdale rightly pointed out the fact that Mr. Gingrich was the not only in Congress for 20 years, he was the ex-speaker of the House. Mr. Gingrich failed to mention that during those years in Congress he received his health care from the government! He went on to propose a voucher system for the poor to buy health care, and tax deductions for workers to purchase needed insurance on the open market. Where does Mr. Gingrich expect to find the money to give out vouchers, or find money to offset tax-credits? All of us are paying increasing "taxes" for health care; it just happens to come from a different pocket. Our municipalities are struggling to pay for the health costs of their employees: teachers, police, firefighters etc. This has to be paid by our property taxes. If our government officials are incapable of financing a national health care system, maybe they shouldn't be in office?

Jeff Barrett VT It's been proven that Medicare is the most efficient health care system in this county, with the least amount of waste and overhead. With premiums based on ability to pay, everyone will get fair & equal medical coverage, which will benefit all. Preventative maintenance catches medical issues before they become expensive problem

William Rowe VT I have some coverage under Vermonts PATH program. I checked the other day and drugs I take would cost \$500.00 per month. I only have SS and a small pension. I could not afford these drugs without the help of Vermont ems. This is a good Idea who's time has come.

Janette Loven VT Thank you. Its about time someone started this process. Now how long will it take before it happens?

Peter A. Cooper VT Just do it!

Michael Bayer VT Our candidate for Lieutenant Governor, Steve Hingtgen, a 3 term state representative, has made affordable healthcare for all the centerpiece of his campaign.

Deborah Messing VT My father was a doctor from 1930 until his death in 1959 and was a vocal proponent of universal health care. I would like to see some progress toward this in my lifetime. Let's join the civilized world on this issue.

Maggie Milcarek VT It is time we make healthcare a right for all persons and end the suffering that people endure because of the cost, inadequateness, and discriminatory nature of health insurance. A healthier society is a benefit and a necessity to us all.

Elisabeth Bickford VT I strongly agree with what this petition says Thank you!

VERMONT Continued

- Kate Judd** VT It seems incredible to me that this great nation is so backward as to fail to cover the health needs of its citizens. The rich can, and do, pay for the best health care available, whether traditional or complementary in method -- and the rest of us suffer, either by paying exhorbitant premiums or by simply not having coverage. While I am fortunate to live in the state of Vermont, which has relatively good coverage available to low income citizens at little or no charge, the inhabitants of most states are not so blessed. Health care should be a right for all U.S. citizens.
- Ellen Oxfeld** VT Yes, a single payer system is the only way to cover everyone, and also keep costs under control!
- Heather Riemer** VT It's the right thing to do for working people, the unemployed, children, the elderly and even the employers.
- Rita Roth** VT In 2002 the Travelers Ins. Co. and Mutual of Omaha cancelled a block of individual health policies. I was covered under this policy for eighteen (18) years. I have a letter in my possession that actually states they know the people in this block are too sick to get coverage elsewhere. I have not been able to get subsequent coverage (pre-existing conditions). Should this happen in America? We are rated 54 in health care. The US Congress and Senate has sold the lives of the citizens they represent to the insurance industry, to cherry pick, deny claims, dictate medical policy, create legislation that benefits their industry, and kill people by practicing medicine without a license ie: making medical decisions regarding drug therapy and surgical treatment. Only a doctor should decide make these decisions. Along with this petition to support HR 676, we should petition for Congress to lose their plum health care coverage and fat pensions. Let's see if 24 hours would be long enough for them to hold emergency sessions to legislate themselves coverage again. The time is NOW to make it known to them that "We the People" are demanding the same rights they have, the right to live, the right to pursue happiness, and the right to vote them out of office. HR 676 for this year 2007!
- Jozef Hand-Boniakowski** VT It is abhorrent for a civilized nation in the 20th century not to provide its workers with universal health care as a basic human right.
- Rachel Foxx** VT I used to work in a health care clinic and couldn't afford health insurance for myself. If our health caretakers can't even afford health care, who can...?
- liz blum** VT This way overdue. Let's make this happen before sickness insurance surpasses salaries.
- David Kreindler** VT Our current patchwork healthcare non-system benefits only insurance companies. Single-payer universal healthcare would benefit all of society, by reducing the waste incurred both in administration and in unnecessary critical care resulting from deferrals of routine or preventive care.
- Barbara MacIntyre** VT Single payer health insurance would save money in administrative fees and allow more people to be covered.
- Cindy Haviland** VT I did not have health insurance until recently. Most jobs do not offer it anymore. My daughter does not have health insurance and I know many people just like her. Its long over due and time to give back dignity to the American people. HEALTH INSURANCE IS NOT A LUXURY; IT IS A BASIC HUMAN NEED!
- Lee Stookey** VT Forget about tax breaks for a few; we need single payer health care for ALL!
- mimi morton** VT Single Payer is the only way!
- Julie Brochu** VT Healthcare is a right, not a privilege.
- Mary Alice Bisbee** VT We need universal healthcare NOW!!!!
- Marilyn Rothwell** VT Retired as a primary care nurse practitioner but not from the universal health care cause.
- Joseph Lasek** VT No person should have to choose between health care and their other basic needs. Everybody in, nobody out!
- Diana Scholl** VT My 24 year old daughter is currently one of the uninsured. Despite paying taxes herself since the age of 15, she cannot get medical care without great financial risk. She now owes over \$1,000 for a (delayed) ER visit for a dangerous kidney infection. Why? Is this how we treat our children?

WASHINGTON

- Sharon Damkaer** WA It is absolutely shameful that our country doesn't have universal health care for its people. This should be a legislative priority!
- Kiwibob Glanzman** WA With a degree in Architecture and working as a Medical/Dental Space Planner, this country is over 200 years behind in Healthcare! Isn't it time for us to catch up with the real world and pass HR676?
- Charles/Sally Weems** WA Political will and leadership seem in short supply currently. A strong congressional backing for this greatly needed and inevitable health care delivery system will restore for us some measure of confidence in our legislative representatives.
- Doris Ferm** WA My daughter is self employed and has to pay more than she can afford for insurance with a high deductible. She has several serious health issues, and will not be eligible for Medicare for several years yet. Since H.R. 676 provides funds for retraining insurance agents who lose their jobs, and since we are the only Western democracy that does not provide universal health care for its citizens, let's do the right thing !
- Sarah Weinberg** WA We need a national health care program NOW. It should cover everyone, and should be paid for by taxes on everyone. That will spread the cost fairly across the entire population - the way the rest of the developed nations do. "Medicare for All" sounds nice, but actually there are many things wrong with Medicare that we should not keep, such as unfair payment formulas and a ridiculous prescription drug policy. We also must include long-term care and dental care, as well as treating mental health problems the same as physical illnesses.
- Jason Lacoste** WA The majority wants this, and don't let anyone tell you otherwise.
- Larry Howard** WA We stand behind HR 676 to provide every American with their right to quality affordable health care for all. The time has come to fix our broken health care "system."
- Mack Boelling** WA A "medicare plan for all" can happen right now, complete with medical, dental, and prescription coverage, at no extra cost. Why hasn't it happened? Duh... The insurance industry has congress in their pocket. Let's do what it takes to change this situation. If our current representatives in Congress won't do it, lets elect those who will. It is time for a grassroots takeover of this issue.
- Barb Boelling** WA The fact that 50 million of our citizens have no health care coverage is unacceptable. We want change NOW!
- ANITA DEDERICK** WA THIS IS LONG PAST DUE. I WORK IN THE HEALTH CARE FIELD AND HAVE FOR 40 YEARS. EVERYONE NEEDS TO HAVE HEALTH CARE AT SOME POINT DURING THEIR LIFE AND IT SHOULD ALL BE NOT FOR PROFIT.
- jamie Goodwin** WA I am the director of a free clinic in the Olympic Peninsula. The need for access to health care and more providers is at crisis state here. Obviously the two go hand in hand. In our area people with insurance often cannot find a provider. Welcome to retirement....and living rural.
- Ronald Codario** WA Private health insurance has been eroding access to health care since its inception. With 18,000 people a year dying due to lacking of coverage, we can't afford to wait any longer. We deserve real reform, not the unsustainable compromises we've been offered. We deserve HR 676.
- Stuart MacRobbie** WA As a physician, I deplore the current cynical for-profit system of health care, and have long worked for a single payer plan of coverage. This bill comes closest to my ideal and I intend to support it vigorously.
- Jenifer Taylor** WA We are paying twice the average of what the other industrialized countries; more than \$6000 / person. That would be ok if we were twice as healthy, but we aren't. We are considerably less healthy. Why? Because our insurance companies don't pay for preventative healthcare and because 1/4 to 1/3 of every dollar we pay goes to salaries for the paper-pushers and executives in insurance companies and HMOs. We have to get rid of the people who are living off our healthcare dollars but are not delivering healthcare. We need quality healthcare for all at an affordable price. A new American healthcare plan.
- Carl Olson** WA This is a must pass piece of legislation which will further the security of all our citizens.
- Judith Nappe** WA Long have we needed a bill like this. It has my whole-hearted hopeful support.
- heather rouge** WA I believe that our country has a responsibility to take care of its citizens, and that our citizens have a right to exemplary healthcare. It's that simple.

WASHINGTON Continued

- Sharon Damkaer** WA Health care is a major concern for many Americans and our government has been needlessly inadequate in addressing this need.
- Peg Ferm** WA It is criminal that we are one of the richest countries on earth and are letting our own citizens die, yes, DIE, for lack of health care. A friend in her fifties recently left her job, lost her health insurance, and DIED because she could not afford her heart medication or the exorbitant cost of individual health insurance in this state. I am sure she did not think it would kill her to go a few months without her meds, until she got another job, but it did, and we have lost a wonderful, talented human being. Because of NO HEALTH INSURANCE. This is criminal, there is no other word for it.
- steve carruthers** WA Common sense should be more common !!
- Peg Ferm** WA I think this is the most important thing on the congressional agenda this decade. I encourage all to go forward full steam with this. Even if it is not 100
- Catherine Pottinger** WA Universal Health Care Now!
- Rose Florio** WA I am a single mom and also take care of my elderly father. He is 81. His teeth are in terrible shape and we can't afford to get him to a dentist. My medical is going up to \$167.00 a month. It has been steadily going up the last 7 yrs. with my pay raises that don't even begin to cover the expenses of everyday living. Bush won't be happy til we are all living on minimum wage jobs! The health care costs in this country are outrageous! Something HAS to be done! Sincerely, Rose Florio
- Brian Keyes** WA I endorse HR-676 and urge Congress to ratify HR-676.
- Oceana del Fuego** WA Please pass HR676, single payer healthcare for all.
- Anita Manuel** WA As one of those millions without health insurance I am vitally interested in this movement. I also want assurance that "integrative" medicine and appropriate "alternative" medicine will be covered with a strong emphasis on preventive rather than after-the-fact crisis care as well.
- Len Surdi** WA According to the words of the Constitution: "In order to create a more perfect union" we need a single payer system. The current for profit system is broken and killing us all.
- Adam Ness** WA Let's make it happen!
- Kay McDonald** WA I'm going to look at your protest paper and I've got some buttons from when I tried to help John Kerry become President. I got the buttons from Mabel. I'm going to Mabel's to get postcards and mail them. Kay McDonald Mabel's Niece. I loved Your potatoes and so did Jim Sanders. krit1294@verizon.net
- Charles Kelm** WA If we cut out all of the current overhead, the dream of healthcare for all can come true.
- Dennis Tucker** WA We will do the right thing.
- Bonnie Barker** WA People in the "richest" country in the world should not be excluded from health care because of inability to pay sky-rocketing insurance premiums. People with pre-existing conditions should not be denied coverage, either. We need health coverage for all.
- Darlene Kieser** WA People deserve equal opportunity to receive adequate medical care.
- Mullane Shrestha** WA This current system fosters a feeling of frantic individuality, making adversaries of patients, doctors, administrators and insurers, the healthy and the sick, the rich and the poor. Our national culture of entitlement and an acceptance of personal opportunity at the expense of marginalized populations is shameful. It is time for a change.
- Oralie Edwards** WA I don't have a personal horror story (at least not yet) but I think it's horrible that so many Americans can't afford basic medical care and even worse that our government allows its citizens to become financially ruined over the health care they need.
- Penny Michel** WA Now is the time that we do this right. Healthcare for everyone!

WASHINGTON Continued

- Doug Thompson** WA On behave of citizen of washington state please support and pass HR676
- Thomas Winkel** WA I am now 61 and have been paying for health care costs for myself & family all of my life. Until one month ago I took zero drugs and did not even have a family doctor. I recently found out I have heart disease and had to have a stint. \$60,000, and now several hundred \$\$ a month in drugs. (I'll have to buy them through Canada). I had planned on retiring soon, but will now have to maintain thirty hours a week in order to keep my employer subsidized health care! Disgusted!!!
- Randall Gunn** WA I believe a national healthcare system is an absolute priority!!!! Not later, but now!!!! Randy Gunn
- Sharon Levering** WA Our citizens need HR 676--personally I have found private insurance unaffordable when it covers so little, with outrageous copays and deductibles on top of the premiums. I have had to forego all preventive care b/c of the high costs, and I am just waiting until I qualify for Medicare (in about 7 years). I go to the doctor only when it is absolutely necessary, once every year or so. Is this any way to manage healthcare?
- Andy Silber** WA Check out <http://web.mac.com/andyds11/iWeb/AmericanHealth> for some of my ideas
- Edward Salazar** WA It's time.
- June Schumacher** WA Single payer health care is the only system that will work, Medicare for ALL. After all, insurance corporations only bleed the system, they do not provide health care. How can American industries compete in the world market having to pay their employees health care when other industrialized nations fund health care by taxes? It's time for a change. Nobody cried when refrigerators replaced the ice man.
- bryan bell** WA As a Christian, I am willing to contribute to a national health care plan that would cover americans that are uninsured. I currently have health care through my employer but I know many people who do not and they are too often forced into debt to pay large medical bills.
- Susan Erzen** WA Health care should be a right of all those living in the USA, not a commodity that is distributed and sold to those who can afford it and leaving those who cannot afford it without any health care coverage. The Citizen's Healthcare Working Group made its final recommendations and noted that there is "remarkable consensus among Americans for public policy that ensures all Americans, regardless of their financial resources or health status, have affordable health care coverage" I support a single payer system to provide healthcare for everyone. That will take healthcare decisions out of the hands of private insurance companies. It will mean expanding medicare to all citizens. As noted in the final recommendations of the CRWG : Perhaps the most challenging component of the Working Group's strategy is Recommendation 4: Defining the core benefits and services that will be assured to all Americans. But the CRWG also found a clear willingness amongst Americans to pay a fair share, to try to do a better job of taking care of themselves, and to accept limits on coverage if based on good medical evidence. I urge you to stop letting insurance companies and pharmaceutical companies make our health care decisions. We elect our senators and representatives to make the difficult decisions that meet the needs of our citizens. I ask you to step up to the plate and make the difficult decisions to realize affordable healthcare for everyone. HR-676 deserves your vote.
- Merry Van Deusen** WA How can this wealthy nation justify the pain and fear of illness and disease that millions of Americans face each day because they have no health care coverage...thus they delay treatment because they cannot pay the bill. What is moral and right about that! Can't we work to provide reasonable health care for ALL the citizens of this country.
- Richard Pelz** WA We need universal public health insurance like Medicare. Private health insurance has failed us. We don't need to put up with all of its drawbacks any more.
- Jeffry Canin** WA We strongly support this proposal.
- Sara Johnson** WA We all want the best medical care when we need it. It costs money. The only way we will ever avoid excluding people at the time they need care the most is to all share the risk and cost together. We then have clout to demand quality, efficiency and cost containment. Do we really believe that access to health care should be only for the privileged few who can afford it out of pocket? Do we want to continue having the cost of care be hidden from us in the cost of doing business or overcharging one person to cover the cost of care of another? I think we can find an equitable way to finance health care, but only if it includes us all and is not driven by the need to make money off peoples illness.
- Don White** WA The true solution to this country's medical crisis is NOT to pay for insurance for everyone. The solution is to pay for health care for everyone. The difference is cutting out the middleman and cutting out the labor cost of dealing with the middleman's beauracracy. I strongly protest spending public money in the name of health care when a good portion of that money would end up supporting an insurance company's corporate excesses.

Jim Hanrahan WA Now is the time for YOU to listen to the PEOPLE, not the MONEY! Healthcare for EVERYONE is a RIGHT, and is the RIGHT thing to do!

Richard Austin WA Bargaining over continued health care is more often than not contentious. There is a solution. It is HR 676, the United States National Health Insurance Act. Unions that find it necessary to take economic action in order to maintain health care coverage do so as a course of last resort. Workers suffer, industry suffers, and the economy suffers. And what are they doing? They are doing nothing more than demanding life-saving medical care. It is both immoral and disgraceful that 47 million people cannot access needed health care. It is both immoral and disgraceful that our nation's health care system has driven working families into deep debt, including bankruptcy. Congress had better get busy. There is a tipping point and it is rapidly approaching. Workers are more and more united on the need to enact universal, affordable, accessible, comprehensive health care. Now it is time for Congress to run and catch up with its constituency. Support for health care for everyone is a pre-condition for my vote in the 2008 elections!

Debera Hanrahan WA It is time to take the profit out of health care. It is time to support our doctors and not put the burden of collecting from insurance companies that don't want to pay for services because it cuts into their profits. We are paying higher premiums and getting less every year so that the insurance companies make higher profits.

Roberta Mantooth WA We need a program that does not depend on a person's employment, that emphasizes wellness, and that spreads the costs of people with catastrophic situations out over the full population.

Lounette Templeton WA I have good health insurance -- Medicare. Why am I more deserving than the 47 million uninsured? And why are my leaders refusing to buck market-based insurance that controls the kind of healthcare the rest of Americans receive?

Shirley Jacobson WA I am a retired RN that worked over 40 years in the healthcare system. Based on my experience I know that the System needs changing. We have a sick care system not a healthcare system and if we could change that people would be a whole lot healthier and productive and we would save a lot of money for other important issues. The first step is universal single payer health care. Take the profit out of healthcare as all the other leading industrial nations have done. That will force us to change the way we deliver care and make it more efficient and economical

Chris Covert-Bowlds, MD WA 46 million Americans without health coverage should be a crime; 18,000 dying prematurely for lack of health coverage a year! I see people in a low-income clinic every day, suffering for lack of health coverage. It's an outrage, and we can provide affordable health coverage for all Americans, while controlling costs and the excessive profits and diversion of health care money to insurance and pharmaceutical companies, with a national single-payer plan, "everybody in, nobody out!" People are dying for it every day!

Alice Woldt WA Get the insurance business out of the business of my health. Shouldn't good health be a right not a privilege?

Karen Epler WA I am married to a family practice physician. We have a small group private insurance plan with an individual and family deductible of \$5400. We pay \$7200 a year in premiums. Practically this means we have no health or pharmacy insurance unless we have a catastrophic event while the insurance company collects its \$7200 a year for providing no service. Because of this situation, no member of our family saw their doctor last year.

Sarah Weinberg WA Alone among the developed nations of the world, the top 10 U.S. for-profit HMOs made \$10.8 billion profit in 2005. That's enough money to provide quality health coverage to at least 2 million of the uninsured. No other developed nation has any significant number of uninsured citizens. What good is a nation that fails to provide basic health coverage to all its citizens? We in the U.S. should be hanging our heads in shame, led by those who took home profits at the expense of the misery of the uninsured. Please support HR 676. It's the right thing to do.

Janet Jenkins WA Why are we the leader of the world when it comes to war machines and technology but very low on the list when it comes to taking care of our people? Let's spend our money on health care not war!

Nick Powell WA All Americans need and deserve decent medical care NOW.

June Schumacher WA Please support HR676, the national single payer bill. We desperately need more health care for less money. Thank you!

Cindy Aldrich WA Medication costs and dental coverage are my biggest problems right now. I have been a wage earner since I was 12 years old. A few years ago I became disabled and unable to work. I currently live on Social Security Disability and have Medicare coverage. This does not cover all of my medications, so I apply to my state Medicaid program. There I run into this hideous 'spenddown' problem. My prescriptions alone are \$300 per month more than my monthly income, yet I do not meet the criteria for medically needy person. I am expected to pay out \$900+ before I qualify. In the meantime, I have no dental care, my teeth need treatment. One molar is rotting in my mouth, but I'm afraid to have it pulled because my remaining teeth would then separate and leave gaps. When I am able to work again, it will be a serious impediment to find work with big gaps between my teeth. Most of my teeth are sensitive to hot and cold, chewing hurts and I am without resources. Medicaid pays for basic dental care, but I don't qualify. Even if I did, it would only pay to pull my tooth; nothing for keeping them from drifting. Each month is a struggle financially, often choosing which prescriptions I can pay for and still buy groceries. I worked all of my life before becoming disabled. This is not right.

JUDITH LOCKWOOD WA Although deeply concerned about universal health care for all I didn't feel personally impacted because I have insurance through an abusive spouse from whom I'm separated. After attending a single payer health care forum I realized how deeply affected I am. I realized that to continue having the needs met to control a chronic medical condition I must remain married although we have been living separate since 1997. In two years, when my youngest child turns 18 I will no longer have medical insurance in spite of raising both of my children by myself. I cannot afford to pay for my medication and other required medical expenses. This is my own personal story and it reflects many others who support HR-676. Please support passage of HR-676. .

Rev. J. K. Nolan De Nobles WA This this is just so very necessary. It is God's intention that we not only have life, but life abundantly. And while eternal life does not depend upon any earthly health care system, God knows that without health, and care of health, and the means to care for health now while we are here, then survival on earth (i.e. a "zoe" life) is simply unattainable. If we have the countless billions of dollars to wage war in the name of peace any and every-where else in the world, then certainly we have the capacity to wage war on those whose capital interests are vested in the exploitation of ill-health and poverty. The lack of universal health care and the consequences thereof is a travesty. Anywhere. But certainly never more so than in a place that prides itself as "the WEALTHIEST country in the world". It is time that we pride ourselves in becoming the HEALTHIEST country in the world-- and I don't mean by comparison to everywhere else, I mean on an individual by individual, family by family, community by community, and state by state basis. It cannot be overstated that there are scores of illnesses which are terrifying to those who are stricken with them and those who fear they maybe someday. The only thing worse is the terror of having no way to obtain the necessary care. That is a war on terror worth waging. No matter how much we fight terror around the world, if we do not wage health on a universal basis right here at home, then there can be no peace here...And that enemy is a terror that will yet still prevail. "NARABA!" and Good God bless.

Rio Thomas WA I'm 51 years old and have already lost a tooth due to no healthcare. I am in debt to the dentist, two years behind on cleanings and fillings, and this is contributing to even more problems that I wouldn't have had if I could afford regular dental care. In the wealthiest country in the world, I think everyone should have healthcare.

Loren Herrigstad WA I'm an independent contractor real estate agent with no health insurance. I suffered a gallbladder attack last September, and had to have surgery to remove it. My hospital care bill for Emergency Room Care, two nights in a room and the use of an operating room came to \$18,900, which was fortunately paid for by the nonprofit hospital's Charity Care program. My surgeon's and anesthesiologist's fees were not though, and they total over \$3,800 which I am still paying off six months later. The idea of Medical Savings Accounts is just ludicrous, if not a downright cruel prescription, for most of us working Americans. It is time we joined the rest of the First World and had Single Payer Health Care in this nation!

Janet Knowles WA Sad that in the so-called richest country, we have so many millions without insurance and many more millions with little coverage. As a Canadian living here, health insurance is a disgrace compared to the system we left. Administrative costs run five times what they would be under single payer, there's no marketing costs, no CEO runaway salaries and stock and options - people shouldn't get rich on the backs of sick people. More and more insurance companies are denying coverage that doctors recommend so you in fact have no coverage at all. Imagine a place where you'd never need to worry about your health needs again - with single payer universal healthcare, that could be your new world.

Janet Knowles WA Sad that in the so-called richest country, we have so many millions without insurance and many more millions with little coverage. As a Canadian living here, health insurance is a disgrace compared to the system we left. Administrative costs run five times what they would be under single payer, there's no marketing costs, no CEO runaway salaries and stock and options - people shouldn't get rich on the backs of sick people. More and more insurance companies are denying coverage that doctors recommend so you in fact have no coverage at all. Imagine a place where you'd never need to worry about your health needs again - with single payer universal healthcare, that could be your new world.

WASHINGTON Continued

- Chris DeVoney** WA Healthcare needs to be available to every citizen of the United States.
- Jenifer McMurtrie** WA NOW!!!
- susan rigney** WA Half of all the bankruptcys in this country are due to medical problems. We need to fix this now.
- Victor Fliegel** WA Wife died of cancer and over and above insurance we had many thousands to pay. I had on Medicare Open Heart surgery and with Medicare and Suppliment had nothing to pay. This is not right.
- Catherine Jarosz** WA I work in health care and am becoming increasingly alarmed at the number of patients I directly observe, who can no longer afford their health care premiums, and can no longer afford treatment for their chronic illnesses like hypertension, diabetes and glaucoma. It seems that the insurance and pharmaceutical industry, in their wisdom, feel it is more cost-effective to allow them to progress to strokes, kidney failure and blindness. It is reprehensible that a nation like ours can allow 45 million of its citizens to live like this. I am the daughter of a Scottish immigrant and know there is another way to deliver health care in a cost-effective and just manner. I have been working for universal single-payor coverage in my union, city, and state for years. It is long overdue!!!
- Dorene Carrel** WA We need to include holistic healers and dentists too.
- Edwyna Spiegel** WA I am 59 years young, graduating completing my K-8 Teaching Certificate. This is my 3rd career and I'm thrilled. But I also am suffering extreme back pain from a fall 3 years ago. Pain management doctor started me on Hellerwork to try and control pain - especially since as a teacher I will be on my feet all day. I can only afford major medical insurance (\$188/month) which does not cover Hellerwork. Today I had to cancel all future appointments with Hellerwork specialist and pain management doctor because as a student I CAN NO LONGER AFFORD THE MEDICAL CARE. I am so angry! I am a life-long activist and am so angry that America is STILL THE ONLY INDUSTRIALIZED NATION IN THE WORLD WITHOUT HOUSING, HEALTHCARE AND CHILDCARE POLICIES. This is a sin! Respectfully, Edwyna Fong Spiegel
- Joanna Urrego, R.N.** WA Dennis Kucinich for President in 2008! Start showing up to rallies with this and other positive changes on your mind. Thank You.
- Loren Herrigstad** WA Healthcare is a right in most every other industrialized country, EXCEPT the United States. If a person is at all Pro-Life, Pro-Life supporters must also support health care for all. Anything less just makes the Pro-Life movement hypocritical. You cannot support the preservation of life at its beginning and end without supporting the maintenance of life throughout its course.
- Catherine Pottinger** WA Universal health care is urgently needed and long over due.
- Bo Howell** WA National health care programs exist in many of the advanced industrial nations in t Europe. The success rate speaks for itself. We need to set aside our pride and follow the lead of our European counterparts.
- Janet Knowles** WA Had single payer health care in Canada as an adult for 20 years. No paperwork, no profits, no pre-existing conditions, no deductibles - just saw my own doctor and rec'd excellent healthcare. Janet Knowles
- Donald Penders** WA The U.S. has the most expensive and least effective health care system in the developed world. Cut spending and increase care. 46 million people without health care is a symptom of a failed society.
- stan wylie** WA This is important to all people republican, democrat, immigrant, or not. This issue should bring everyone to the streets.
- Marilyn Bruning** WA It's shocking that America's health has become a corporate profit center instead of health care delivery system. The Medicaid system for poor children is tragically broken.
- Alok Yadav** As someone who grew up with the government funded health care system in Canada, I know that a single-payer system would be a vast improvement on the current state of health care in the United States. Consequently, I strongly support HR 676.
- Charles Ulrich** WA the sooner the better!!!

Janet Knowles WA Healthcare is a right. Unfortunately in this country it seems to be a privilege. The costs (for eg) in Canada are 1/2 per person for universal healthcare than the costs here in US. Administrative costs are 5% whereas the bulk of expenses in US are for advertising, marketing, promotion & hundreds of millions in profits to corporations. Please make this happen.
Janet Knowles

Sandra Jeppesen WA As I am a nurse working at state hospital it is amazing how many patient have no insurance. They often wait months for healthcare needs and then have no hope in recovering. We also see so many patients that are referred from other hospital as "[we] seem to have the only hospital in the state to do charity care". We need healthcare for everyone now!!!!

Mary Hall WA This is one of the most important issues of our time - the first being public financing of elections to get the big moneyed lobbyists out of the pockets of our "representatives".

Dee Amschler WA My family has become an example of the political sacrifice of the uninsured. In theory, I'm "theoretically" or "likely" to be employable "with constant access to appropriate medical care" and my husband is totally unable to work. The odds of surviving a probationary period and then the exclusionary period since my problems are "pre-existing" are somewhere on the bad side of slim to none. Since my husband and I both have medical issues, privately purchased insurance isn't even possible - even though with care all our conditions are under tight control. That leaves public health. What many people don't realize is that in many parts of the country public health, particularly specialist care, requires at least Medicaid or Medicare (they won't see the uninsured or if they will, they expect full cash payments) - and the list of places doing this is constantly growing longer. So here my husband and I sit on SSDI - all because I needed to be declared disabled to get necessary basic, though specialist, care. And to think, with access to care, I was easily making a solidly middle class salary. If, as many people try to claim, cost is the only or primary factor, wouldn't it be "cheaper" or "more cost effective" to just provide care to everyone who needs it rather than making those who need it go into a dire level of poverty and be declared disabled?

Carl Olson WA With fewer dollars than we currently spend, all Americans can enjoy health care security.

Stan Wylie WA This has to be done!! Healthcare has become the fight for Labor and workers. If nothing is done soon or left status quo it will only become harder for millions of vulnerable people to obtain healthcare and jobs for that matter.

Jane Martin WA Health care for everyone in this country should be more of a priority than acquiring new countries for the Empire.

Geoff Archer WA Thank you for taking action on this issue - charges are long overdue.

Richard Bard WA The efficiency of putting all a country's citizens in one big risk pool has been so clearly demonstrated by the success of those other countries which have adopted universal health insurance, I'm surprised we haven't switched to such a system already. Fortunately, it's not too late.

Richard Hegdahl WA Health care cost continues to rise for veterans and I want to know that when I am old, I won't be financially ruined by health care costs. With VA funding being ripped away by the present administration, I am scared.

Christopher Covert-Bowlds, MD WA 18,000 Americans dying every year from lack of health insurance is not only a tragedy, it's a crime. It's time we hold our legislators accountable, time to cover all Americans with health insurance.

Naomi McClarrinon WA I need my teeth worked on.. and have no money to do it. I have a wisdom tooth that is loose and no money to fix it.. wouldn't it be nice for anyone who need to get what they needed done.

Mrs. Joseph P. Fleming WA In our 10th year with a long term dementia has crippled me from lifting and drained us to pay for supplies, equipment and caregivers LONG TERM CARE AT HOME IS IN NEED OF HELP!!

Butch Taylor WA Group Health is a NON-profit HMO. I voted with its Progressive Caucus to support, not just lobbying, but grassroots mobilizing for what I heartily call "socialized" medicine!

WASHINGTON Continued

Dee Amschler WA My family has become an example of the political sacrifice of the uninsured. In theory, I'm "theoretically" or "likely" to be employable "with constant access to appropriate medical care" and my husband is totally unable to work. The odds of surviving a probationary period and then the exclusionary period since my problems are "pre-existing" are somewhere on the bad side of slim to none. Since my husband and I both have medical issues, privately purchased insurance isn't even possible - even though with care all our conditions are under tight control. That leaves public health. What many people don't realize is that in many parts of the country public health, particularly specialist care, requires at least Medicaid or Medicare (they won't see the uninsured or if they will, they expect full cash payments) - and the list of places doing this is constantly growing longer. So here my husband and I sit on SSDI - all because I needed to be declared disabled to get necessary basic, though specialist, care. And to think, with access to care, I was easily making a solidly middle class salary. If, as many people try to claim, cost is the only or primary factor, wouldn't it be "cheaper" or "more cost effective" to just provide care to everyone who needs it rather than making those who need it go into a dire level of poverty and be declared disabled?

kim jones WA better late than never!

Jerry Kunz WA Passage of this Act will change the country's status as having the most expensive and least responsive health care system in the industrial world. Isn't it really more important in terms of national security (and simple humanity) than a huge armed force?

Thomas (Sam) Soriano WA In these times of difficult budget constraints enacted by the Republican Administration and with the restrictions of the new Medicare Bill 2006 it's going to be really hard for me and the thousands of people living with hiv disease to receive the proper care, medication regimens, and prevention services that we all so desperately need. The coming times also are getting very, very, very difficult for millions of americans to afford health care and to have that health care be portable. The very fibre of the american family health care system is at stake. Please let us do the right thing for all americans in this great country of ours. Thanks you for the opportunity to express my heartfelt thoughts and feelings. Respectfully, Thomas (Sam) Soriano

Rio Thomas WA As a mother of two children with no health care, I can speak from experience. I believe health care is a basic human right for ALL, not just the wealthy.

Cat Sullivan WA If we are already paying the price in taxes, all Americans deserve healthcare!

Leah Moise WA It is about time that everyone in the United States, let alone the world, had health care, regardless of their income!

Chris Lindberg WA We're organizing in Bellingham, Washington around this campaign! In our first weekend out (Memorial Day weekend, with a local festival) we got more than 500 signatures and some 30 people registered to Vote! Si se puede! We can do it!!

Martha Koester WA As Dennis Kucinich keeps saying "We are already paying for universal health care, we just aren't getting it."

WISCONSIN Continued

Nancy Theoharis WI The new census data released today on poverty and health care illustrates again the priorities of the current administration....money for the war and tax breaks for the rich. The poor and working class citizens of the US continue to lose ground and find themselves in even more difficult and unhealthy circumstances. Now is the time to guarantee health care for everyone!

Mark Muszynski WI Anyone who takes the time to read HR676 will soon see that it is a necessity needed to correct and remove the greed from our Health Care system in the United States today! I plead that our Congress hears our plee's and stops resting on their laurels and bring this bill to the table.

WISCONSIN Continued

Frances Barman-Paulson WI A national healthcare plan is long overdue! It would seem that a nation as advanced as the US could have come up with a workable plan by now. This may be it!

Kristen Zehner WI Americans today are scared to contemplate their future, because our government is failing us under Bush et al.

Gloria Maloney WI I waited 22 years to be diagnosed with and receive treatment for painful, recurring gallstone attacks because I had no health insurance. I was literally thrown out of emergency rooms and even spent a night in jail because ER doctors who would not do diagnostic tests because I did not have health insurance, labeled me a "drug seeker." I have been pain free for two years now since I had my gallbladder surgically removed. My reputation as a nurse has been pretty thoroughly destroyed by events and rumors associated with my health care ordeal. I am one of the uninsurable/unemployable citizens.

George B. Robson WI Access to quality health care is a basic right. It is fundamental for a healthy workforce. No one should be excluded because of cost. I would like to see health care paid for by a national health insurance as they do in Canada.

Susan Holleran Good quality health care should be a right for all not a privilege reserved to those rich enough to afford coverage or lucky enough to work for an employer who provides it.

Fred Colman WI Please, be compassionate.

Lawrence Harding Jr WI I believe healthcare in the wealthiest country of the world and most democratically progressive we as USA citizens deserve healthcare as a right not a privilege. All elected and fully employed city, State, County and federal Employees have full healthcare. There is absolutely no excuse that those who pay the taxes and vote should not be entitled to the same benefits. It is a world disgrace that the USA does not fulfill this American citizens right immediately without reservation. Any elected official that fails to support full healthcare for every American Citizen should be targeted for removal from the office they hold in the following election. Thank you

Kathleen Waterhouse-Skibicki WI I am an RN at a nonprofit hospital. An increase number of our patients are without health insurance and therefore unable to pay for their hospital stay. All of our staff has taken a pay cut and quite a few we let go because the hospital is \$20 million over budget. We need national health care or hospitals like the one I work for will become poor healthcare providers or go out of business.

Patricia Cartwright WI Patricia Cartwright

Deborah Finn WI You were elected to serve the people, not the insurance industry. How do you sleep at night knowing that our great country ranks 37th in the world when it comes to health care? We don't need more insurance. Insurance companies don't need more money. What we, the people, need is universal health care. I have good insurance right now. As I age and lose my insurance benefits, just when I need them the most, will I have to choose between eating, getting medical care, or buying the gas to get to the doctor? Americans are good, hard-working people. We deserve better than a bunch of well insured fat-headed elected officials who have forgotten what it means to serve their constituents. It's sickening! Wonder if my insurance covers nausea?

David Slautterback WI It is immoral to leave 46 million Americans without health care. It is a disgrace that the American non-system provides inadequate health care. We must have universal/single payer now!

Thomas Shroeder WI A decent, financially sound and responsible national health care plan is long overdue.

Linda Niemuth WI We have the best health care in the world, and all Americans should have access to it no matter what their income level is. We need a national health care program!

Sheila Collins WI We need universal health care. Let's make it happen.

Stephen Anderson WI The amount of money we paid last year for mediocre health care was dumbfounding. I can think of only one other issue more in need of drastic change in the United States

Michael Roth WI I can think of only one reason why this will never happen, GREED!!!

Fred Colman WI Health care is a Right!

WISCONSIN Continued

- Stacie Reger** WI You know we pay so much for insurance but yet they dictate what they will and won't pay for. And my son has autism and they cover nothing. How does that help him get better??? Doesn't now, does it?? Thanks to the good ole insurance [companies].
- Jeanna Beneke** WI Health care should be provided to all, because we all need care.
- Mary Hawley** WI The healthcare system in this country is pathetic. USA needs Universal Health Care Coverage for all it's citizens.
- Roger Chapman** WI Thanks much for your efforts. We're working hard to get a Canada like system in Wisconsin
- Audrey Williams** WI Finally, the bill America has been waiting for.
- Genie Ogden** WI Health care should be a right. It is much too expensive. Our daughter became sick while in California last summer and had to go to the emergency room. It turned out she had a kidney infection. The visit cost over \$1000!. Fortunately our HMO still covered her at the time. But it doesn't now. She has a job and we're just crossing our fingers that she doesn't get sick in the 3 months before her coverage kicks in.
- Mary Luepkes** WI This country is made up of people that possess hopes and dreams of helping others. Please pass HR676 so that people can continue do just that. Thank you.
- Charles Pfeifer** WI I worked 25 years as the director of an Madison Urban Ministry (MUM) before I was forced into disability retirement by chronic fatigue syndrome. I saw first hand the misery caused by lack of adequate health care. I also saw the waste due to lost potential as creative people were handicapped by treatable health issues. Creating a national health care plan is a wise and just investment in our people.
- James Lamal** WI A nation's most valuable resource is it's people. A government truly by, for, and of, the people ensures the people are educated and healthy. Surely the "most wealthy country in the world" can afford universal health care for all of the people.
- Karen Prohaska** WI It is time to take action. Pharmaceuticals, hospital and doctor costs are out of control.
- Randy Clark** WI The time for this has come!
- Mike Beck** WI Congressman Ryan: It is time to stop jumping on board with your party's brand of health insurance. Health insurance accounts are not the answer and you know it. As your employer, I expect you to support HR-676. It is the bill that will do the most good for the common good!!!!!!!!!!
- Kristen Zehner** WI I spread the word to all my contacts--this is vitally important. Please keep up the good work.
- Fred Colman** WI Healthcare needs to be a universal right.
- jp grace** WI care of people over that of private interests? what a concept. and it's about time! thank you, john conyers, et al.
- Colette Major** WI Health care is a basic right. The old way of providing health care needs to be changed dramatically and universal health care is the answer. Also, health insurance should not be tied to a job. For example, if a person moves from job to job and your insurance is provided by your employer - that is considered group insurance and you cannot be discriminated against for prior medical conditions. However, when trying to get your own insurance (away from your employer) discrimination is allowed, or your premium contains a surcharge or medical exclusion or an insurance policy can be denied entirely. (I work for an insurance company.) I pay \$800/month for my medical insurance thru a group plan provided by my employer and to top it off, the coverage is limited and carries high deductibles - this huge premium only covers myself and my son. We do not have any medical conditions and are forced to pay this high premium. The U.S. can do better as a group and have more "buying power" as our neighbor to the north - Canada. US citizens pay the bill for Congress to get the best health care - what about the rest of us????
- Yvonne Tadych** WI We have one of the poorest health care plans in the world. We need to take care of our citizens!

WISCONSIN Continued

- Dan Sharkozy** WI Please help save lives that are being lost to the lack of health care. Free enterprise is respectable, but its not, as it is, respecting life. Free enterprise has failed health care for decades, historically and currently promising to get even worse without government intervention and a sound National Health Care Plan --Dan Sharkozy
- William Parker III** WI To put it in the terms of the dying farming industry: "What's good for the goose, is good for the gander."
- Fred Colman** WI Healthcare needs to be a universal right!
- Linda Hurt** WI Here's to our health
- Jack Lohman** WI For the same dollars we are spending today to cover 85% of the population we could cover 100%. Why are politicians dragging their feet? Follow the money!
- Joe Strauss** WI Lets join nearly all the other industrialized nations and take care of our citizens health.
- Yuri Keegstra** WI Health care is a human right - single payer now!
- Janet Stonecipher** WI Everyone deserves guaranteed health care.
- Richard Bogovich** WI Every other industrialized nation covers ALL of their citizens with a single-payer type system. It is a disgrace for America to leave 47,000,000 of its citizens uninsured!

WEST VIRGINIA

- Hedda Haning** WV It is time to stop protecting the profits of insurance pharmaceutical companies and to provide health care for all Americans
- Sue Lewis** WV I am a 51 year old full time care giver for my husband who has been Dx with Lewy Body Dementia. I am paying out of pocket for his private sitter as there are no "day programs" available. I have had to re-mortgage my home to afford his care. I work full time as a hospice social worker and care for my spouse full time when I'm home. His medicare insurance allows us to see MDs that have some expertise with his disease. His VA benefits give us some of his medications at an affordable price. Harry now has four MDs in four seperate parts of our state that have never spoken to each other and are attempting to all treat the same issue....Dementia with Lewy Bodies. I try to coordinate communication between these MDs and provide each with the others progress notes/lab results. This on top of full time care giving is daunting for a 51 year old. I can't imagine what more elderly spouses do to keep up.

"The American people have been led to believe a series of myths about our health care system, myths that impede change..."

"The market' has been a failure for health care in America. Health care is not a commodity like fast food or automobiles."

-Robert H. Lebow, MD

Pass H.R. 676 Medicare for All by 2009

Healthcare-Now! 



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