

# LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR **GUARANTEED HEALTH CARE**

— The National Single Payer Alliance —

## Members

- California Nurses Association/  
National Nurses Organizing Committee
- Physicians for a National Health Program
- California School Employees Association
  - Healthcare-NOW!
- Progressive Democrats of America
  - All Unions Committee For  
Single-Payer Health Care H.R 676
  - Alliance for Democracy
- American Medical Student Association
  - American Patients United
- Americans for Democratic Action
- Business Coalition for Single-Payer Healthcare
  - Campaign for Fresh Air and Clean Politics
  - Chicago Single-Payer Action Network
    - Coalition of Asian Pacific  
American Democrats – MD
  - Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
    - Health Care for All California
    - Health Care for All Texas
    - Health Justice
- Hoosiers for a Common Sense Health Plan
- Labor Campaign for Single-Payer Healthcare
  - MassCare
  - Medicare for All
- Metro New York Health Care for All Campaign
- National Healthcare for the Homeless Council
  - National Organization for Women
- Network of Spiritual Progressives/Tikkun
  - Older Women's League
- Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and  
Allied Professionals
  - Public Citizen
  - RESULTS
- Single-Payer New York
  - Single-Payer NOW
- Single-Payer Action Network Ohio
  - Troy Area Labor Council
- United Electrical Workers Union
- United For National Health Care
- Western Pennsylvania Coalition for  
Single-Payer Healthcare

*The organizations listed support the  
U.S. National Health Care Act, also known  
as Expanded and Improved Medicare for All*

July 29, 2010

Dear Representative,

As you are probably aware, **July 30 is the 45th anniversary of the enactment of Medicare.**

On this historic occasion, **the Leadership Conference for Guaranteed Health Care reaffirms its support for the Medicare program and calls for its improvement and expansion to cover all residents of the United States.**

Representing a membership base of about 20 million people, the LCGHC is a national coalition of labor, faith, civic, physician and nurse organizations who support single-payer national health insurance, i.e. an improved Medicare for all. Polls show this solution has the backing of about two-thirds of the U.S. public.

By expanding Medicare to everyone, and by replacing the crazy-quilt, inefficient, profit-driven system of multi-payers that our system presently has with a streamlined single-payer system, **our nation would save about \$400 billion annually in unnecessary, wasteful administrative costs.**

**An improved Medicare for all would also possess powerful cost-control tools**, such as the ability to negotiate fees, purchase medications in bulk, develop global budgets for hospitals and coordinate capital investments.

**Such economies would allow us to provide health coverage to everyone**, with no co-pays or deductibles, and yet require **no net increase in overall U.S. health care spending.**

**Regrettably, the new health law falls far short of this standard.** Moreover, recent hints of cuts to the Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security programs, emanating from members of the National Commission on Fiscal Reform and Responsibility, suggest new threats to our nation's safety nets. We categorically reject such a course of action.

We therefore respectfully urge you to:

\* **Speak out strongly in opposition to any cuts in existing Medicare benefits** (or to increased premiums and co-pays, or postponing the age of eligibility).

\* **Speak out strongly in opposition to any cuts in Social Security**, another pillar of our nation's health and economic security, or to the postponement of the eligibility age, its privatization, or the investment of the trust fund's money in the stock market.

\* **Support legislation that would bring about an improved Medicare for all**, i.e. single-payer national health insurance, like S. 703 and H.R. 676.

We enclose additional information about this matter for your review. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



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