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Affiliations listed for identification only.

Dear Colleague,

We invite you to support single-payer national health insurance and to join Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP), the nation's leading advocate for single payer reform with 18,000 members nationwide.

Medicine's mission is to care for the sick, not to generate profits for the health insurers and other health care firms, or multimillion-dollar salaries for CEOs.

It is now clear that the federal reform law of 2010 – whatever its merits – is insufficient to address our nation's health care crisis. It left the private insurance industry firmly at the center of our health system; 23 million will remain uninsured even if the law works exactly as planned; and tens of millions more will be left with coverage so skimpy that serious illness would bankrupt them.

Hospitals and insurers are buying up practices and rushing to merge, anticipating that only giant health care firms will have the clout to survive in the medical marketplace. And investor-owned health firms' dominance is growing, with profits their only hallmark of success. Meanwhile Medicare, Medicaid and safety net hospitals are threatened with steep cuts.

What is needed is a not-for-profit single-payer health system. Only such reform can eliminate the enormous waste, profits, and inefficiencies of our market-driven system, saving (according to PNHP research in the *New England Journal of Medicine*) about \$400 billion annually. That's more than enough to fully cover all the uninsured and underinsured.

You may have seen PNHP's reform proposals and analyses in leading medical journals such as the *JAMA* and *New England Journal of Medicine*. Or you may have heard one of our speakers. Our members have spoken at thousands of grand rounds and other forums, testified before numerous Congressional committees and state legislatures (from Vermont to California) and led the fight for single-payer reform in communities across the nation for 25 years.

If you are one of the growing majority of physicians (59 percent, according to a study in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*) who support national health insurance, we invite you to join us today.

Sincerely,



Oliver Fein, MD
*Immediate Past President, PNHP
Assoc. Dean, Weill Cornell Medical College*

Additional signers are listed in the left hand column.



Steffie Woolhandler, MD, MPH, FACP
*Co-founder, PNHP
Prof. of Public Health, CUNY & Visiting Prof., Harvard*

P.S. Membership dues are as low as \$120 per year (\$40 for residents and fellows) and are tax-deductible. Members have access to PNHP's health policy slide sets and newsletter and receive invitations to national and local meetings.