

March 10, 2008

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Hillary Clinton for President
4420 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203

Attention: Mr. Chris Jennings

Dear Senator Clinton:

The members of the Partnership for Value-driven Health Care, a national alliance of 16 leading employer-based associations, urge you, and every presidential candidate, to expand the vision of health care reform beyond the single issue of universal coverage. Two other issues, quality and affordability, must receive equal recognition and be addressed in the coming national debate. Just as the business community learned in its own industries that investments in technology, reengineering and workforce productivity can lead to dramatic improvements in product quality at lower operating costs, so too can similar investments in the U.S. health care system lead to dramatic improvements in care and greater overall cost control.

The members of the Partnership believe that the path towards meaningful reform must expand access to a health care system that delivers higher quality more affordably. We believe America needs a health care system that ensures that higher value is promoted by:

- providing consumers with the information they need on provider price and quality, as well as the comparative effectiveness of medical services, so they can make wise choices and better navigate their health care journey;
- changing payments and incentives to reward both providers and consumers for achieving improved health outcomes;
- adopting health information technology and interoperable systems by all providers. Passage of legislation to create uniform interoperable health IT standards will enable a fragmented health care system to become connected and support patient-centered health care; and
- shifting greater focus towards health promotion, disease prevention, and primary and chronic care management rather than the current system's orientation towards "sick care". This focus should be promoted by payment reform initiatives.

The Partnership believes that creating a value-driven health care system can and will be embraced by all Americans and political parties if, together, we make them a priority for health care reform. We further believe that a value-driven health care system can best be achieved through a public and private partnership, both at the national level and in communities where health care is delivered.

As you campaign for the presidency, we urge you to join with the Partnership and other stakeholders in support of a value-driven health care system. We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with your health policy advisors to start this important dialogue and joint commitment to meaningful health care reform.

American Benefits Council
Bridges to Excellence
Business Roundtable
The ERISA Industry Committee
HR Policy Association
Leapfrog Group
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
National Business Coalition on Health
National Business Group on Health
National Retail Federation
Pacific Business Group on Health
Society for Human Resource Management
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

March 10, 2008

The Honorable Barack Obama
Obama for America
P.O. Box 8102
Chicago, IL 60680

Attention: Ms. Dora Hughes

Dear Senator Obama:

The members of the Partnership for Value-driven Health Care, a national alliance of 16 leading employer-based associations, urge you, and every presidential candidate, to expand the vision of health care reform beyond the single issue of universal coverage. Two other issues, quality and affordability, must receive equal recognition and be addressed in the coming national debate. Just as the business community learned in its own industries that investments in technology, reengineering and workforce productivity can lead to dramatic improvements in product quality at lower operating costs, so too can similar investments in the U.S. health care system lead to dramatic improvements in care and greater overall cost control.

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U.S. Chamber of Commerce

March 10, 2008

The Honorable John McCain
John McCain 2008
P.O. Box 1618
Arlington, VA 22215

Attention: Mr. Douglas Holtz-Eakin

Dear Senator McCain:

The members of the Partnership for Value-driven Health Care, a national alliance of 16 leading employer-based associations, urge you, and every presidential candidate, to expand the vision of health care reform beyond the single issue of universal coverage. Two other issues, quality and affordability, must receive equal recognition and be addressed in the coming national debate. Just as the business community learned in its own industries that investments in technology, reengineering and workforce productivity can lead to dramatic improvements in product quality at lower operating costs, so too can similar investments in the U.S. health care system lead to dramatic improvements in care and greater overall cost control.

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