



City of Bloomington
Office of the Common Council

August 5, 2009

The Honorable Baron P. Hill
223 Cannon Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hill:

As representatives of the citizens of the City of Bloomington, the Bloomington City Council urges you to support the single-payer health plan as outlined in H.R. 676, The United States Healthcare Act (The Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act) and the interim measure of a public option plan as proposed in H.R. 3200 America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009. The Bloomington City Council has a long-standing commitment to a policy of universal, single-payer healthcare. In 1994, the Council passed Resolution 94-54: To Support State and Federal Legislation Enacting Single-Payer Health Insurance. In 2006, the Council re-iterated its concern with Resolution 06-16: Supporting State and Federal Legislation Enacting Universal Publicly-Paid Health Insurance. Federal action to correct the unjust and ineffective nature of our current health care system is long overdue.

Since the Council's first policy statement, the number of people in the U.S. without health insurance grew from 38 million to 46 million. In Monroe County, over 15,000 residents are without health insurance. Most of the uninsured are hard-working citizens holding down two or three jobs. These people live sicker and die younger. To paraphrase Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., this is a form of inequality that is both shocking and inhumane.

In the interest of providing affordable healthcare to all Americans, the current H.R. 3200 public option bill is an important step in the right direction. However, it is only a step. Insofar as H.R. 3200 requires that all Americans buy private insurance, it is critical that the measure protect Americans against the weakness of a private system -- namely the extraordinary administrative waste that occasions bankruptcy through co-payments, deductibles and loopholes. We need a plan that makes universal, comprehensive coverage affordable. And while we endorse interim measures to foster greater health security, such as H.R. 3200, we maintain that a single-payer, Medicare for All, plan as outlined in H.R. 676, is the most efficient, fair and cost-effective way to expand health care coverage to all Americans.

We urge you to support H.R. 676 and H.R. 3200.

Sincerely,

Signature of Andy Ruff
Andy Ruff, President
At-Large Representative

Signature of Steve Volan
Steve Volan, Parliamentarian
District VI Representative

Signature of Susan Sandberg
Susan Sandberg
At-Large Representative

Signature of Mike Satterfield
Mike Satterfield
District III Representative

Signature of Isabel Piedmont-Smith
Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Vice President
District V Representative

Signature of Tim Mayer
Tim Mayer
At-Large Representative

Signature of Chris Sturbaum
Chris Sturbaum
District I Representative

Signature of Dave Rollo
Dave Rollo
District IV Representative

Enclosures: City Council Resolutions 94-54 and 06-16



City of Bloomington
Office of the Common Council

August 5, 2009

The Honorable Steve Buyer
2230 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Buyer:

As representatives of the citizens of the City of Bloomington, the Bloomington City Council urges you to support the single-payer health plan as outlined in H.R. 676, The United States Healthcare Act (The Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act) and the interim measure of a public option plan as proposed in H.R. 3200 America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009. The Bloomington City Council has a long-standing commitment to a policy of universal, single-payer healthcare. In 1994, the Council passed Resolution 94-54: To Support State and Federal Legislation Enacting Single-Payer Health Insurance. In 2006, the Council re-iterated its concern with Resolution 06-16: Supporting State and Federal Legislation Enacting Universal Publicly-Paid Health Insurance. Federal action to correct the unjust and ineffective nature of our current health care system is long overdue.

Since the Council's first policy statement, the number of people in the U.S. without health insurance grew from 38 million to 46 million. In Monroe County, over 15,000 residents are without health insurance. Most of the uninsured are hard-working citizens holding down two or three jobs. These people live sicker and die younger. To paraphrase Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., this is a form of inequality that is both shocking and inhumane.

In the interest of providing affordable healthcare to all Americans, the current H.R. 3200 public option bill is an important step in the right direction. However, it is only a step. Insofar as H.R. 3200 requires that all Americans buy private insurance, it is critical that the measure protect Americans against the weakness of a private system -- namely the extraordinary administrative waste that occasions bankruptcy through co-payments, deductibles and loopholes. We need a plan that makes universal, comprehensive coverage affordable. And while we endorse interim measures to foster greater health security, such as H.R. 3200, we maintain that a single-payer, Medicare for All, plan as outlined in H.R. 676, is the most efficient, fair and cost-effective way to expand health care coverage to all Americans.

We urge you to support H.R. 676 and H.R. 3200.

Sincerely,

Signature of Andy Ruff
Andy Ruff, President
At-Large Representative

Signature of Steve Volan
Steve Volan, Parliamentarian
District VI Representative

Signature of Susan Sandberg
Susan Sandberg
At-Large Representative

Signature of Mike Sattenfield
Mike Sattenfield
District III Representative

Signature of Isabel Piedmont-Smith
Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Vice President
District V Representative

Signature of Tim Mayer
Tim Mayer
At-Large Representative

Signature of Chris Sturbaum
Chris Sturbaum
District I Representative

Signature of Dave Rollo
Dave Rollo
District IV Representative

Enclosures: City Council Resolutions 94-54 and 06-16



City of Bloomington
Office of the Common Council

August 5, 2009

The Honorable Evan Bayh
131 Russell Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Bayh:

As representatives of the citizens of the City of Bloomington, the Bloomington City Council urges you to support a national healthcare option that moves toward a single-payer plan as proposed in S.703, The American Health Security Act of 2009 and the interim measure of The American Health Choices Act. The Bloomington City Council has a long-standing commitment to a policy of universal, single-payer healthcare. In 1994, the Council passed Resolution 94-54: To Support State and Federal Legislation Enacting Single-Payer Health Insurance. In 2006, the Council re-iterated its concern with Resolution 06-16: Supporting State and Federal Legislation Enacting Universal Publicly-Paid Health Insurance. Federal action to correct the unjust and ineffective nature of our current health care system is long overdue.

Since the Council's first policy statement, the number of people in the U.S. without health insurance grew from 38 million to 46 million. In Monroe County, over 15,000 residents are without health insurance. Most of the uninsured are hard-working citizens holding down two or three jobs. These people live sicker and die younger. To paraphrase Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., this is a form of inequality that is both shocking and inhumane.

In the interest of providing affordable healthcare to all Americans, the current public option bill - The American Health Choices Act -- is an important step in the right direction. However, it is only a step. Insofar as the measure requires that all Americans buy private insurance, it is critical that the measure protect Americans against the weakness of a private system -- namely the extraordinary administrative waste that occasions bankruptcy through co-payments, deductibles and loopholes. We need a plan that makes universal, comprehensive coverage affordable. And while we endorse interim measures to foster greater health security, we maintain that a single-payer, plan as outlined in S.703, is the most efficient, fair and cost-effective way to expand health care coverage to all Americans.

We urge you to support S.703 and The American Health Choices Act.

Sincerely,

Signature of Andy Ruff
Andy Ruff, President
At-Large Representative

Signature of Isabel Piedmont-Smith
Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Vice President
District V Representative

Signature of Steve Volan
Steve Volan, Parliamentarian
District VI Representative

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Signature of Susan Sandberg
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Signature of Chris Sturbaum
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Signature of Mike Satterfield
Mike Satterfield
District III Representative

Signature of Dave Rollo
Dave Rollo
District IV Representative

Enclosures: City Council Resolutions 94-54 and 06-16



City of Bloomington
Office of the Common Council

August 5, 2009

The Honorable Richard Lugar
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Lugar:

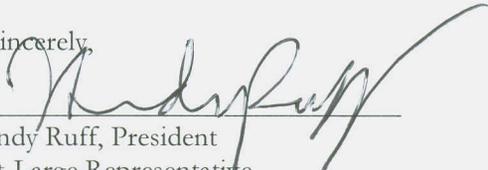
As representatives of the citizens of the City of Bloomington, the Bloomington City Council urges you to support a national healthcare option that moves toward a single-payer plan as proposed in S.703, *The American Health Security Act of 2009* and the interim measure of *The American Health Choices Act*. The Bloomington City Council has a long-standing commitment to a policy of universal, single-payer healthcare. In 1994, the Council passed *Resolution 94-54: To Support State and Federal Legislation Enacting Single-Payer Health Insurance*. In 2006, the Council re-iterated its concern with *Resolution 06-16: Supporting State and Federal Legislation Enacting Universal Publicly-Paid Health Insurance*. Federal action to correct the unjust and ineffective nature of our current health care system is long overdue.

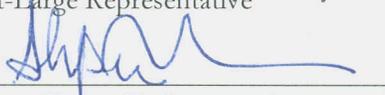
Since the Council's first policy statement, the number of people in the U.S. without health insurance grew from 38 million to 46 million. In Monroe County, over 15,000 residents are without health insurance. Most of the uninsured are hard-working citizens holding down two or three jobs. These people live sicker and die younger. To paraphrase Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., this is a form of inequality that is both shocking and inhumane.

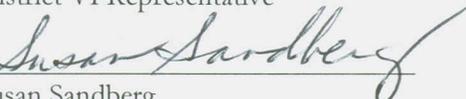
In the interest of providing affordable healthcare to *all* Americans, the current public option bill – *The American Health Choices Act* -- is an important step in the right direction. However, it is only a step. Insofar as the measure requires that all Americans buy private insurance, it is critical that the measure protect Americans against the weakness of a private system -- namely the extraordinary administrative waste that occasions bankruptcy through co-payments, deductibles and loopholes. We need a plan that makes universal, comprehensive coverage affordable. And while we endorse interim measures to foster greater health security, we maintain that a single-payer, plan as outlined in S.703, is the most efficient, fair and cost-effective way to expand health care coverage to all Americans.

We urge you to support S.703 and *The American Health Choices Act*.

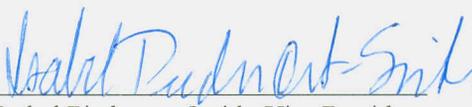
Sincerely,

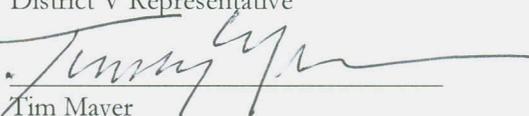

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