

November 6, 2009

Dear Member of Congress,

As organizations that represent Hispanic Americans, we are deeply concerned with the health care reforms currently being discussed. We do not support reforms that will lead to increases in taxes for all Americans but especially for small business owners, cuts in Medicare, and mandates on families and businesses.

Hispanic small businesses are among the fastest-growing sectors in the U.S. – growing at a rate of over three times faster than the national average. We have been hit hard by this slow economy and cannot afford a greater tax burden and mandates on our families and small businesses. The result will be more Hispanics out of work and reduced wages that directly impact low-income and minority communities.

With the growing number of Hispanic seniors, one in four of whom have Medicare Advantage, the defunding of the Medicare Advantage program and other Medicare cuts proposed would result in fewer benefits and a significant disruption in the care and coverage senior Hispanic Americans receive.

Many of our families came to the United States to escape hardship, pursue business opportunities and enjoy its economic freedoms. We deserve the right to make our own health care choices and not be subjected to costly and inefficient government mandates.

More than 30 percent of Hispanics are currently uninsured, and we want real reform that would help them. These reforms must promote real competition and choice. We want to ensure that Hispanic families have affordable health care, more choices and that their direct relationships with their doctors remain intact and uninhibited by bureaucrats.

Competition-increasing solutions include allowing businesses and individuals to purchase health insurance across state lines, which would make it easier and less costly for small businesses to provide employees with coverage. Allowing groups to join together to purchase insurance – whether they be small business or church or community groups – would also have a significant impact on the affordability of insurance for Hispanics and increase choices.

Government-focused proposals where bureaucrats and not individual business owners will decide what coverage an employer should provide will not help our families or businesses. Also, individuals will be penalized with fines and higher taxes if they do not follow the rules in Washington.

We hope that you will consider these concerns and what is in the best interest of Hispanic Americans, and all Americans, as you vote on health care reform.

Sincerely,

Hialeah Chamber of Commerce & Industries

Hispanic Alliance for Prosperity Institute

Hispanic Leadership Fund

Hispanic Professional Women Association

CAMACOL - Latin Chamber of Commerce of U.S.A.

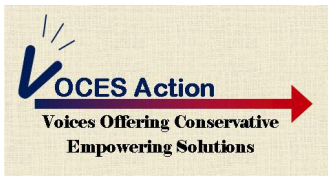
Patients' First (Pacientes Primero)

The Latino Coalition

U.S. Mexico Chamber of Commerce

Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Voces Action



*Building Bridges*



United States Mexico Chamber of Commerce  
Cámara de Comercio México-Estados Unidos



HISPANIC ALLIANCE FOR PROSPERITY INSTITUTE

