

HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA **NOW!**

It's time for an American solution that will guarantee our families' health and a healthy economy. The first order of business for the new President and Congress in 2009 should be health care legislation that guarantees quality, affordable health care for all.

We all agree that the longer we wait to fix our broken health care system, the harder it will be for us to get the health care we need. **BUT WHAT KIND OF SOLUTION DO WE WANT?** A solution in which all of us – individuals, employers, and government – share responsibility for guaranteeing access to health care we all can count on? Or a scenario in which we are on our own when it comes to getting health care? **WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON?**

Which Side Are You On?

On your own to get health insurance

- Coverage and care for everyone in our nation are **not** guaranteed.
- Discourages employers from providing health benefits for workers, leaving more and more people on their own with the insurance companies.
- For the first time, people would pay income taxes on health insurance benefits paid for by their employers.
- Individuals and families would receive a tax credit that would pay for about one-quarter to one-half of the cost of health insurance that they purchase on their own.
- **No** requirements that health insurers have standard benefits. Health insurance companies could charge high deductibles – as much as \$10,000.
- **Nothing** to stop abusive insurance company practices, like refusing to cover pre-existing conditions, denying or delaying claims or restricting your choice of doctors.
- **No** choice of a public health insurance plan as an alternative to private health insurance.
- **No** controls on insurance company premiums or profits or on how much drug companies can charge for prescriptions.
- Health insurers will be able to sell policies across state lines, leaving people without the protection of their state laws.

I'm on this side.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Quality, affordable health care for all

- Guaranteed coverage and care for everyone in America.
- Affordable coverage and care, with premiums and out-of-pocket costs based on a family's ability to pay.
- Everyone gets a choice of health insurance plans, including the right to keep your current insurance, choose another private plan or to join a public health insurance plan.
- Standard, comprehensive benefits, with a choice of providers, that meet our families' health care needs – from preventive care to care for serious illness.
- Equity in health care access, treatment, research and resources to people and communities of color and strengthening health services in low-income communities.
- Coverage that is predictable and affordable for working families, retirees, small businesses, and other employers.
- Government sets and enforces rules on insurance company practices and charges, requiring them to put our health care before their profits.
- Controls costs while improving quality, with measures such as: lowering administrative expenses, investing in preventive care, actively managing disease, setting standards for performance, reducing medical errors, and using the public's purchasing power to lower drug and other prices.

I'm on this side and I oppose the other side's "on your own" proposals.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____