

# Sample letter ... to your legislator

Your name  
Your address....

Dear Legislator:

America is in the throws of huge change. As an American citizen, I have been watching Congress engage any number of issues over the last several months. My concerns grow as our national debt increases beyond any reasonable means of repayment. Recently, our government has imposed itself into the banking industry, the auto industry, and the insurance industry. Now, Congress contemplates increasing the government's already huge presence in the health care industry.

Medicare is NOT a success story. It remains overwhelmingly costly and on the verge of insolvency. SCHIP is similarly not an example of increasing Americans access to care. Most who hold an SCHIP card cannot find a willing physician who accepts the insurance in part because of the payment structure but largely because of the regulatory morass attached to working with government systems.

Every day I find another news story about the need to reform healthcare NOW without any facts substantiating that claim. Indeed, America's healthcare delivery system needs a huge overhaul. We need to rid ourselves of the regulations and mandates that make healthcare expensive and non-accessible. We need to allow patients more choice by asking doctors and hospitals to post their prices so that we might do "comparison shopping."

The government cannot and should never judge the quality of the healthcare that I choose to buy. Please do NOT waste any more of my tax dollars trying to "rate hospitals" or doctors. Do not waste any more of my tax dollars by creating more paperwork for doctors and hospitals that assume that all patients are alike and that all treatment patterns should follow a government created protocol. I want my doctor to treat MY specific concerns and conditions with a treatment strategy that is about ME, not about my neighbor or someone in Minneapolis.

I do appreciate the need for scientific studies and I support every opportunity to expand the science of medicine. It is the opportunities that doctors have to apply the science to the individual that makes American medicine the best in the world. We cannot spend any more time trying to make patients fit a pattern of government dictated care.

Thank you for working to keep this country safe and secure. That is your job. I will thank you in advance for NOT imposing yourself into my personal life and for understanding that the best health care is delivered in a room with 4 walls and a closed door without any government interference.

Yours....