

Dear Members of Congress,

We are all aware that America's health care system is in desperate need of repair. In order to address our severe health care challenges, we all must work together in a collaborative and bipartisan effort. And we must be willing to look at solutions developed by all types of health care providers.

Nursing's contributions are an essential and indispensable part of solving our health care crisis. As you continue to move forward in reforming our health care system, we urge you to remember that no single group of professionals or politicians will solve these complex problems alone. For health reform to be successful, the voices of nursing must be heard, and any solution must draw on the critical insight and innovative solutions offered by the nation's largest group of health professionals.

Nurses, physicians, and other health care professionals have already begun to take action to create commonsense solutions that provide the type of care that Americans urgently need. In many cases, these are interdisciplinary models of care that produce positive health outcomes and demonstrate cost savings. We encourage you to examine these models; more information can be found on the **American Academy of Nursing's Web site, www.aannet.org**. Where applicable, we must encourage the replication or expansion of these models.

Enabling the system to deliver the best possible care at an acceptable cost requires not just reformation but transformation, which is why we strongly urge you to engage all the various health care professionals.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Donna E. Shalala
President, University of Miami
Former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services
Chair, Raise the Voice Advisory Council

Erik Joh, Esq.
Gertrude E Skelly Charitable Foundation
Co-Chair, Raise the Voice Advisory Council

Louis Burns
Vice President & General Manager,
Digital Health Group, Intel

Susan Dentzer
Editor-in-Chief, Health Affairs

Linda Golodner
President Emeritus, National Consumers League

Michael C. Howe
Former CEO MinuteClinic

Randall Krakauer, MD, FACP, FACR
Head of Medicare Medical Management, Aetna

Nancy A. LeaMond
Executive Vice President, Social Impact, AARP

Mark B. McClellan, MD, PhD
Director, Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform,
The Brookings Institution

Irene Natividad
President, Global Summit of Women

David Nexon
Senior Executive Vice President, AdvaMed

Samuel Nussbaum, MD
Executive Vice President, Clinical Health Policy and
Chief Medical Officer, WellPoint

Richard Pettingill
Chief Executive Officer, Allina Hospitals & Clinics

Corinne H. Rieder, EdD
Executive Director and Treasurer,
The John A. Hartford Foundation

Hal F. Rosenbluth
Senior Vice President, Walgreens

The Honorable Pat Schroeder
President and CEO, Association of American Publishers
Former Member of Congress

Paul Simonetti
Director, Corporate Stakeholder Relations
Philips Electronics North America

The Honorable Louis Stokes
Senior Counsel, Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, LLP
Former Member of Congress

Reed V. Tuckson, MD, FACP
Executive Vice President and
Chief of Medical Affairs,
UnitedHealth Group



American Academy of Nursing
www.aannet.org | 202-777-1170

Raise the Voice is supported by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation