

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	Health Care concern from constituent (1 page)	November 29, 1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Sarah Bianchi
OA/Box Number: 15610

FOLDER TITLE:

Prescription Drugs

2013-0512-S

sb7

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

**HEALTH CARE
FINANCING
ADMINISTRATION****OFFICE OF
LEGISLATION****FAX: 202/690-8168****facsimile transmittal**

To:	Sara Bianchi	Fax:	202/456-5557
From:	Kathleen Merlo 202/690-8284	Date:	11/10/99
Re:	Prescription Drug Benefit Costs	Pages:	3 plus cover
CC:			
☐ Urgent	☒ For Review	☐ Please Comment	☐ Please Reply
			☐ Please Recycle

Follow up sheet

Bonnie Washington asked me to fax this to you. Call if you have any questions.

BROSNAN HEALTH Q&A

Q: Should the federal government guarantee that all citizens get basic health care coverage?

A: Al Gore supports passing targeted meaningful reforms right away and immediately providing all children access to affordable coverage; expanding coverage to their parents; passing proposals to offer affordable new health options for Americans ages 55 to 65 and expanding health options for people with disabilities; providing tax breaks for small businesses – who have the hardest time providing coverage -- to help them offer health insurance; and tax credits for individuals whose employers don't offer health care coverage.

Then we will reevaluate what is working and what is not and figure out what steps make sense to move forward to reach our goal of universal access to coverage for all Americans. As President, he will continue to unveil proposals to move towards the goal of assuring all Americans access to affordable health coverage.

Q: Have you or any close family member encountered a serious health problem? What impact did that experience have on your views on health policy?

A: Like most Americans, the Vice President has had family members who have suffered from serious health injuries and problems. And like most Americans, these experiences have helped shape his views on health care in America.

For example, cancer has touched the Vice President's family, as it has touched almost every family in America. As President, Al Gore has pledged to change the way that we prevent, detect, and treat cancer in the 21st Century. He feels we must commit the resources needed to combat this disease and take the necessary steps to ensure that America's cancer patients have access to cutting edge treatments and are treated fairly.

Q: In your vision, should Medicare continue as an entitlement program with everyone getting the same benefits or should the government provide premium support and let seniors get their best deal in the private insurance market?

A:

Q: Should Medicare include prescription drug coverage and how would it be paid for?

A: As President, Al Gore will fight to use the surplus to keep Medicare strong -- and to make affordable prescription drugs available under Medicare.

This proposal will be paid for within a balanced budget. Ensuring the health and well-being of America's working families is a high priority for the Vice President, but he also feels we must spend in a fiscally responsible way. Ensuring that our country continues on

the path we've laid out, one of fiscal discipline and targeted spending, is one of Al Gore's highest priorities.

Q: Should people have the right to sue their HMO?

A: Yes. Al Gore is committed to expanding health care coverage for those who do not have it and improving it for those who do. As President, Al Gore will fight for the passage of a strong enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights -- one that gives patients critical protections, such as access to specialists, access to emergency room services and making health plans accountable for harming patients

Q: Should health insurance plans cover mental illness to the same extent that they do physical illness in terms of limits on the dollar amount or duration of services?

A: Al Gore is committed to working until the day that there is no longer a difference between the way that mental illness and physical illnesses are treated.

He has proposed a new step to assure that Americans with severe mental illnesses covered by Medicaid receive quality coverage that assures they get the treatment they need, by giving incentives to states to provide comprehensive community-based options.

Q: Should federal tobacco taxes be raised to discourage smoking?

A: The Vice President is committed to reducing teen smoking.

He agrees with public health experts who support raising the price of cigarettes so fewer young people start smoking. The Vice President also favors passing legislation to reaffirm the FDA's authority to regulate tobacco products in order to halt advertising targeted at children, and to curb minors' access to tobacco products. Only by affirming FDA's authority can Congress ensure that America's children are protected from the next generation of tobacco industry marketing.

Q: Have you ever been a regular cigarette smoker? If you quit, what did you do to help yourself quit?

A: Yes. The Vice President quit smoking by dropping the habit "cold-turkey".

Q: What medical research would be a priority for you as President?

A: Al Gore has unveiled a historic plan to change the way that we prevent, detect, and treat cancer, a disease that kills more than 560,000 Americans yearly.

He feels we must commit the resources needed to combat this disease and take the necessary steps to ensure that America's cancer patients have access to cutting edge treatments and are treated fairly.

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November 29, 1999

To: Sarah Bianchi
Vice-President's Office

From: Marty Auman *MA*
Tipper Gore's Office

Subject: Health Care

*pls give copy
to Deborah
& Karin
Kulman
& file pres.
dry*

I had a phone call this morning from a senior citizen regarding her health care insurance policy, and not able to pay for medication. She has to wait until the first of the month when her checks come in to buy medication, and then is afraid she will not be able to pay her rent.

Mrs. Turner lives in a senior citizens' apartment in Hyattsville, Md. Retired as a GS grade 3, federal employee.

Her name, (b)(6), 66 yrs. old, Phone 301/559-3327.

If you need more detailed information, call me on x66640.