

THE WHITE HOUSE

February 1, 1994

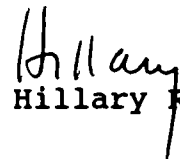
The Honorable Calvin M. Dooley
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dooley:

Thank you for your letter about advanced directives. I share your view that all individuals should receive information about advanced directives when they can carefully consider their health care options. The Health Security Act therefore requires all health plans to provide information on advanced directives at the time of enrollment.

I look forward to working with you in the coming months as the Congress considers health care reform legislation.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton

CALVIN M. DOOLEY
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS AND NUTRITION
GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES
LIVESTOCK

NATURAL RESOURCES
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CREDIT FORMATION

October 25, 1993

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

First letter attached

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I was pleased to read your recent comments regarding living wills and advanced directives.

As I have indicated in previous correspondences, I am committed to insuring that advanced directives have an important role in a reformed U.S. health care delivery system.

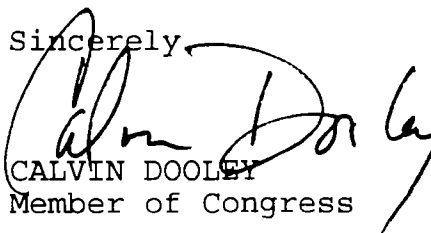
Earlier this year I introduced the Advanced Directives Expansion Act. Under my bill, information about Advance Directives will be included in enrollment materials for Medicare and Medicaid programs. This legislation will give people more of an opportunity to consider their health care options in advance of an emergency. It will also save millions of dollars in unwanted medical procedures.

I have worked closely with my colleagues in the Conservative Democratic Forum to include the provisions set forth in my legislation in H.R. 3222, the Managed Competition Act of 1993.

I hope that similar provisions can be included in the Administration's Health Security Plan. In my view it's essential that we give patients the opportunity to determine the level of futile care they would like to receive.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely


CALVIN DOOLEY
Member of Congress

CD:lld

CALVIN M. DOOLEY
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA



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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 30, 1993

Agriculture Committee
Cotton, Rice & Sugar
Livestock, Dairy & Poultry
Department Operations, Research
and Foreign Agriculture

Interior Committee
Water, Power & Offshore
Energy Resources
National Parks & Public Lands

PAM ADV 3 1993

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Health Care Task Force
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I am writing to urge you and other leaders in the health care reform debate to give careful consideration to Advance Medical Directives as you decide the future of our health care system.

We all know that modern health care technology works wonders and saves lives, but in some cases it only prolongs dying through unnecessary and expensive treatment. In fact, studies show that \$1 of every \$7 spent each year on health care comes in the last six months of a patient's life.

Of the approximately 2 million Americans who die each year, 80 percent die in hospitals, and perhaps 70 percent of those die after a decision is made to forego life-extending measures. Given the choice, most Americans would not want their lives hopelessly -- and expensively -- prolonged by machines. However, most Americans have left no instructions to aid their physicians or families in reaching these important decisions.

In recognition of this, Congress passed a law that requires certain hospitals, nursing facilities, home health agencies and hospice programs to provide information to all patients concerning their rights to leave instructions for their medical treatment if they become unable to communicate. These legally binding documents are generally referred to as Advance Medical Directives.

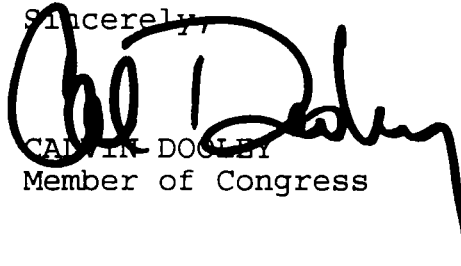
I intend to introduce legislation to expand the Advance Directives program to involve more Americans. Under my bill, information about Advance Directives would be included in enrollment materials for Medicare and Medicaid programs. This legislation would give people more of an opportunity to consider their health care options in advance of an emergency. It also would save millions of dollars in unnecessary medical procedures.

I believe that Advance Directives should be a key component in any national health care reform package. Regardless of the model, Advance Directives should be part of any standard

enrollment in health care plans.

I hope that as a leader in the health care reform debate, you will consider not only the cost-saving benefits of Advance Directives, but also the fact that patients and their families deserve the choice to determine the level of end-of-life care they would like to receive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cal Dooley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "D".

CALVIN DOOLEY
Member of Congress

CD:lld

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 4, 1994

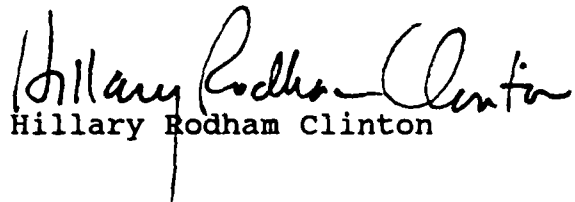
Ms. Nancy Hondros
Program Coordinator,
Advance Directives
Lutheran Hospital
4 N.W. Commons
1910 South Avenue
LaCrosse, Wisconsin 54601

Dear Ms. Hondros:

Thank you for sending information about the "Respecting Your Choices" Advance Directives program. I share your view that all individuals should receive information about advance directives when they and their families can carefully consider personal values and health care options. The Administration's proposal for health care reform therefore requires all health plans to provide information on advanced directives at the time of enrollment in a health plan.

I very much appreciated learning about your efforts to educate patients and health professionals about advance directives. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton