

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 21, 1994

The Honorable H. Martin Lancaster
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lancaster:

Thank you for sending a copy of your health care newsletter and the results of the questionnaire on health care reform. I was especially glad to see that 71% of your constituents who responded favor a change in the health care system and a comprehensive package of benefits for all Americans.

I look forward to continuing to work with you to pass health care legislation that we can both strongly support.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton

Congress
of the
United States
House of Representatives

March 2, 1994

H. MARTIN LANCASTER
NORTH CAROLINA
THIRD DISTRICT



Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

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Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I thought that you might be interested in seeing a copy of the health care newsletter I did for my constituents in December, and the results of the questionnaire which was included. The results will be printed in my next newsletter which is now in the works.

As we both know, the only thing on which consensus now exists is that something needs to be done. I remain committed to working for reform to make America healthier, but doing so in a way that does not make my district sick!

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

H. Martin Lancaster
Member of Congress

HML:tg

Enclosure

At-Large Majority Whip
Committees:
Armed Services
Merchant Marine and Fisheries
Small Business

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Your opinions on health care reform

There are important decisions on health care reform to be made in the next few months, and Congressman Lancaster needs your input. Please check the appropriate boxes, fill out the name and address panel on the back page, fold, stamp and mail.

1. Do you currently have insurance?
Yes ☒ 93% No ☐ 7%
2. Are you satisfied with your current health care insurance?
Yes ☒ 65% No ☐ 31% ^{No op} 4%
3. Are you satisfied with America's current health care system?
Yes ☐ 30% No ☐ 67% ^{No op} 3%
4. Do you think America's health care system needs to be changed?
Yes ☒ 71% No ☐ 25% ^{No op} 4%
5. Did the amount of money you paid for health care increase last year?
Yes ☒ 68% No ☐ 28% ^{No op} 4%
6. Rank in order of importance the parts of the health care system which need to be changed (1 to 5).

<u>18%</u> Insurance Costs	<u>16%</u> Unavailability of insurance coverage
<u>17%</u> Doctors' fees	<u>25%</u> Malpractice suits
<u>24%</u> Hospital charges	

Straw vote: Rank the plans on Page 2

Status Quo 13% Clinton 20% Wellstone 10% Chafee 2% Michel 16% Cooper 19% ^{NONE} 20%

Please indicate whether you favor or oppose the following concepts of health care reform.

1. Government controls on price increases for insurance, hospitals and doctors.
Favor ☒ 53% Oppose ☐ 12% ^{No op} 5%
2. Requiring all employers to pay 80 percent of the cost of insurance (tax-paid subsidies for businesses with fewer than 75 employees).
Favor ☐ 33% Oppose ☒ 61% ^{No op} 6%
3. A comprehensive benefits package available to all Americans.
Favor ☐ 71% Oppose ☐ 26% ^{No op} 3%
4. To finance reform -
 - (a) A tax on ammunition and handguns.
Favor ☐ 58% Oppose ☐ 39% ^{No op} 3%
 - (b) A cigarette tax.
Favor ☒ 5% Oppose ☐ 12% ^{No op} 2%
 - (c) A tax on alcoholic beverages.
Favor ☐ 67% Oppose ☐ 30% ^{No op} 3%
 - (d) Payroll tax (with the employee paying 1 1/2 percent of wages and the employer paying 6 1/2 percent of wages), instead of current insurance premiums.
Favor ☐ 35% Oppose ☐ 56% ^{No op} 9%
5. Extending prescription drug coverage and long-term care to seniors under medicare.
Favor ☐ 74% Oppose ☐ 20% ^{No op} 6%

Attention employers:

The Administration is presently developing an employer premium worksheet that will help employers compute the insurance cost for themselves and their employees under the President's reform proposal. If you are interested in receiving a worksheet to calculate your premium please check the appropriate box in the name and address panel on the back page.

Consensus - continued from Page 1

see a sort of farmers market where buyers and sellers will and negotiate. The Clinton plan would require employees of companies with fewer than 5,000 workers and federal workers to deal with the alliances. Many lawmakers feel the company size limit should be decreased. Others want voluntary alliances it would compete with others in their areas of operation.

Controlling costs will be the subject of hot debate in the committees and the cause for much lobbyist shoeleather to be worn out in the halls of Congress. The Clinton plan would limit the amount that premiums could be increased each year. This, it is hoped, would make the health plans responsible for figuring how to live within their budgets. However, many lawmakers do not want the government to have any role in limiting prices. On the other side are those who believe the government should apply a Medicare-type benefit for all Americans with medical fees and hospital charges tightly controlled by the federal government.

Place
stamp
here

Congressman Martin Lancaster
2436 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515