

THE WHITE HOUSE

April 15, 1994

The Honorable Arlen Specter
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Arlen:

Thank you for your note. I apologize for not responding sooner. During our trip together in February, you shared a number of ways to address the problems of our nation's health care system. My staff has contacted yours to continue to discuss these ideas.

As always, I appreciate your support for health care reform. I look forward to working with you this year to develop a comprehensive proposal that will assure every American the security of affordable health care coverage.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton

Arlen Specter

U.S. SENATOR PENNSYLVANIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

SENATOR SPECTER WILL DISCUSS WHAT THE VICE-PRESIDENT DOES NOT WANT PENNSYLVANIANS TO KNOW ABOUT THE CLINTON HEALTH CARE PLAN DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY, MARCH 31, AT 9:30 AM

In response to Vice President Gore's lobbying of senior citizens on behalf of the Clinton health care plan in Philadelphia tomorrow, U.S. Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) will hold a press conference to outline the differences between the administration's rhetoric about its plan and the reality of what the plan provides.

The press conference will take place at 9:30 AM on Thursday, March 31, in the plaza immediately east of the Green Federal Building, Sixth Street, between Arch and Market Streets.

Senator Specter called on Vice President Gore to respond to weaknesses in the Administration's health care plan during his visit to the South Philadelphia Older Adult Center tomorrow. Problems with the President's plan that Senator Specter has raised, which the Administration has failed to address, include the cost of creating 105 new bureaucratic agencies and the loss of consumer choice of health care providers.

During the press conference, Senator Specter will discuss other approaches to health care reform which are gaining momentum in Congress.

He will also outline his own approach, detailed in Senate Bill 18, which retains the current system providing the best health care in the world to 86.1 percent of Americans, while targeting specific problems such as coverage for the 37 million people without insurance, coverage for pre-existing conditions, and greater preventative care to control spiraling health care costs.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3802

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SOME QUESTIONS ON PRESIDENT CLINTON'S HEALTH LEGISLATION

- 1) The Clinton Plan will create ~~some~~ 105 new agencies, boards and commissions in the federal government and increase the responsibilities for at least 47 existing entities or programs?
- 2) Women under the age of 50 would not be eligible for routine breast cancer screening?
- 3) The National Health Board has the power to amend the national benefits package and set health care spending ceilings which could lead to reduced access to care and quality of care?
- 4) The global budget and premium controls contained in the Administration's plan will lead to decision making based on economics and not the needs of the patient?
- 5) The fiscal authority granted to the Health Alliances in the President's plan would exceed that of the Governor and legislature in every state?
- 6) A mandate on employers to cover 80 percent of health insurance premiums would increase labor costs leading to the loss of an estimated 3.1 million jobs?
- 7) The premium limits proposed under the President's plan on participating health plans could restrict access by consumers to their choice of providers?

3/31/94