

THE WHITE HOUSE

July 28, 1994

Albert A. MacPhail, M.D., F.A.C.R.  
Diagnostic Radiology  
Box 213  
7 Gilman Lane  
East Orleans, MA 02643

Dear Dr. MacPhail:

Thank you for writing to share your unfortunate experience with the Medicare program. In the past year, I have listened to physicians and other health professionals share their views about the current health care system. I have seen first hand that we have the highest quality of care, the most talented and dedicated health professionals, and the most advanced research institutions in the world.

Unfortunately, those institutions and professionals are often overwhelmed by excessive paperwork and administrative burdens. According to the American Medical Association, the average physician spends 40 hours a month on billing and paperwork. And in the last decade alone, the number of hospital administrators grew 16 times as fast as the number of doctors.

The President's proposal for health care reform simplifies the health care system. A uniform, comprehensive benefit package with standard cost sharing rules will replace the confusing array of insurance products on the market today, and

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a single reimbursement form and uniform reporting requirements will replace the hundreds of claims forms used today. Similarly, Medicare will simplify and streamline its reimbursement and claims system. Doctors and nurses will finally be able to spend more time on patients than paperwork.

Thank you again for your thoughtful comments.

Sincerely yours,

  
Hillary Rodham Clinton

cc: The Honorable Gerry E. Studds