



Physicians to the candidates: Enact single-payer health reform

America's health care system is failing. It denies care to many in need and is expensive, error-prone and increasingly bureaucratic.

Despite abundant medical resources, care is often inadequate because of **the irrationality of our insurance system**. Yet our political leaders seem intent on reprising failed schemes from the past, rejecting the single-payer national health insurance model that is the sole hope for affordable, comprehensive coverage.

Single payer reform could realize administrative savings of more than \$300 billion annually—enough to cover

the uninsured and to eliminate co-payments and deductibles for all Americans. It would also slow cost increases by fostering coordination and planning.

The incremental changes suggested by most Democrats cannot solve our problems; further pursuit of market-based strategies, as advocated by Republicans, will exacerbate them. **What needs to be changed is the system itself.**

We urge our political leaders to stand up for the health of the American people and implement a nonprofit, single-payer national health insurance system.



To get the full text of our "Open Letter to the Candidates on Single Payer Health Reform" signed by more than 5,000 physicians, including some of the most prominent leaders in medicine, or to make a tax-deductible donation to this reform effort, call 877.782.6006, visit www.pnhp.org/2008, or write PNHP, 29 E. Madison St., Suite 602, Chicago, IL 60602.