

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 2, 2009

The Honorable John Boehner  
Minority Leader  
1011 Longworth House Office Building

The Honorable Eric Cantor  
329 Cannon House Office Building

The Honorable Mike Pence  
1431 Longworth House Office Building

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
2229 Rayburn House Office Building

The Honorable John Carter  
409 Cannon House Office Building

The Honorable Pete Sessions  
2233 Rayburn House Office Building

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
1523 Longworth House Office Building

The Honorable David Dreier  
233 Cannon House Office Building

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
1323 Longworth House Office Building

Dear Representatives Boehner, Cantor, Pence, Blunt, Carter, Sessions, McCarthy, Dreier, and McMorris Rodgers:

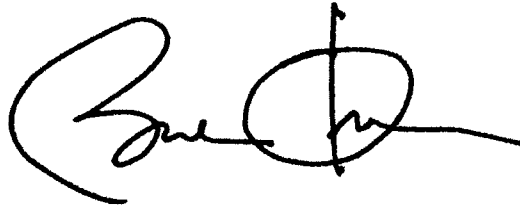
Thank you for your letter and for letting me know that you share my view that we should enact legislation this year that reforms and improves our Nation's health care system. I especially appreciate your commitment to assuring affordable, quality health care for all Americans.

We have an extraordinary opportunity to move forward in the months ahead. I believe legislation that addresses issues of cost, coverage, and quality of care will pass the House of Representatives by August 1, and I am encouraged by your willingness to work with me in that effort. Over the last decade, out-of-pocket expenses have soared and premiums have doubled for millions of Americans. Rising health care costs have limited job growth and stifled business innovation. Without fundamental reform, the Office of Management and Budget has projected that the share of GDP devoted to health care will dramatically increase and reach 34 percent by the year 2040. That is why it is

so important that the legislation Congress passes emphasizes innovative best practices that bring down costs while improving the quality of care.

Thank you again for sharing your thoughts with me and I look forward to further discussions on this critically important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gene D. [unclear]". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and a vertical line through a circular element.