

BERNARD SANDERS
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
VERMONT, AT LARGE

509 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4501
TELEPHONE: 202-225-4115
FAX: 202-225-6790

191 BANK STREET
BURLINGTON, VT 05401-3845
TELEPHONE: 802-862-0897
TOLL FREE: 800-339-9834
FAX: 802-860-6370

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4501

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE,
TRADE AND MONETARY POLICY
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND COINAGE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, JUSTICE
AND AGRICULTURE
HUMAN RESOURCES AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Dear Friend,

I am pleased to enclose information concerning H.R. 2530 -- legislation which I recently introduced in Congress. This bill, if passed, would enable states to adopt a single-payer, comprehensive and universal health care plan similar to that which exists in Canada, and which would guarantee health care to every man, woman and child without out-of-pocket expense.

Our current health care system is clearly in turmoil. Thirty-five million Americans have no health insurance, and fifty million more are underinsured. Senior citizens, despite Medicare, are spending 18% of their incomes on health care. Today, the U.S. ranks 22nd in the world in infant mortality, and 12th in life expectancy.

And yet, despite this woefully inadequate health care system, the U.S. is spending far, far more per capita than any other nation on earth for health care. We spend 40% more per capita than the Canadians, who rank second in the world. Even more frightening, the cost of health insurance is zooming upward by 15 to 20% every year with no end in sight.

H.R. 2530 provides the financial help and legal authority to those states which are willing to take the lead in creating single-payer, comprehensive and universal health care plans. Needless to say, it is my sincere hope that the state of Vermont will lead the nation in this direction.

After reading the enclosed information, I hope that you will decide that you are interested enough in this legislation to become even more knowledgeable and involved in the struggle for a national health care system. My staff and I are very interested in meeting with any group that would like to discuss or endorse this bill. If your organization would like to set up a meeting on national health care, we would be delighted to work with you. If you are interested, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Bernard Sanders
Member of Congress

BS:db