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Making Washington
the Healthiest State
in the Nation

September 28, 2009

Senator Max Baucus
--via email--

Dear Senator Baucus:

The Washington Health Foundation (WHF) strongly supports health reform, and we are actively engaged in efforts to promote national health reform legislation. We do, however, believe that prevention policy, specifically clinical preventive services, needs to be part of any health reform bill. It is our firm belief that health reform, without prevention, won't reform health. Below are our specific recommendations:

- We have written several in-depth policy briefs, outlining our priorities and recommendations for health reform, and those are available here: <http://www.whf.org/policy-priorities/health-reform>
- We also support the prevention strategies outlined by Trust for America's Health in its report on community based prevention programs. <http://healthyamericans.org/report/66/prevention>

WHF's Healthiest State in the Nation Campaign is the largest civic engagement project for health in Washington state history. With 1,300 organizations, 40,000 individuals, and 400 K-12 schools engaged in our campaign, we are a powerful voice in the call for health reform. You can learn more about us at www.HealthiestState.org

Last week our Executive Committee approved our official statement of support on health reform, and that statement can be found here: http://healthieststate.typepad.com/2009-9-15_Health_Reform_Statement_final.pdf. We believe that inaction is unacceptable, and that the time is now for major health reform. The Washington Health Foundation applauds your efforts in drafting legislation, and strongly encourages you to add prevention to the bill.

Yours sincerely,



Greg Vigdor,
President & CEO

cc: Washington Congressional Delegation