

Dear President Obama,

I write to call on you to RENOUNCE ANY TRIGGER in the health care reform bill under consideration.

You campaigned on "Change we can believe in," and the American people believed in you. But those who would base the implementation of any public plan on a trigger propose that as a way of making sure it never actually happens, JUST LIKE the trigger in Medicare Part D never came into effect, resulting in NO real change at all. And it is being reported you have been pushing for the trigger yourself.

What the American people want, and deserve, is health care reform with a robust public option:

- \* based on Medicare rates, not negotiated rates
- \* nation-wide, with no state opt-outs
- \* administered by Medicare, not a for-profit insurance company
- \* and available immediately

Why is it that single-payer Medicare for All (HR 676 with 88 sponsors), the plan that would save the most money for the American people, and reduce the national deficit the most, has never been seriously considered by you? And why has it not yet even been given a CBO estimate?

Is it true, as medical industry lobbyists brag, that in the end they will get everything THEY want because they have spent \$110 million dollars in the last 6 months to influence law makers? Are they the only "stakeholders" you listen to? Don't the American people, who contributed so much more than that to your campaign alone, have a stake in our own government?

And why put off implementation of even the weak public option they are talking about in Congress until 2013? Is it so that the American people don't realize what a bad deal they got until after another election has passed?

These are the questions on the table, Mr. President. But first, we the American people call on you to demonstrate your leadership by PUBLICLY RENOUNCING Senator Olympia Snowe's trigger scheme. She has long said she would never let any kind of public health care option happen. Could it be any more perfectly clear that is the only purpose for having a trigger at all?