



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 2, 2020

Dr. Rita Luthra
Longmeadow, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Rita,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding healthcare policy.

There are significant challenges in healthcare markets, including reduced competition and rising costs that threaten both family and government budgets. Obamacare has complicated these challenges, causing health insurance premiums for individuals and small businesses to increase drastically while choices dwindle. That is why we must make reforms that improve affordability, protect coverage for pre-existing conditions, expand choice, increase access, and encourage quality healthcare and innovation.

My Administration has vastly expanded affordable insurance options, which can be up to 60 percent less expensive than Obamacare plans for many Americans. We have taken this action in order to bring down premiums for consumers and give millions of Americans a broader range of affordable coverage choices and greater control over how to finance their healthcare needs.

In December 2017, I was pleased to repeal the burdensome individual mandate penalty, which fined Americans for not purchasing insurance coverage they did not want or could not afford. My Administration will continue to work with Congress to pass legislation that takes the power over healthcare out of Washington and returns it to the American people. We will ensure that Americans with pre-existing conditions have access to coverage.

We are also working to make our healthcare system fairer. The Food and Drug Administration approved more low-cost generic drugs in my first two years than ever before in the history of our country, resulting in a decline in drug prices for the first time in 50 years. I also signed into law legislation ending the terrible “gag clauses” that prevented pharmacists from telling patients about cheaper options at the pharmacy counter. Additionally, I signed an Executive Order to promote price and quality transparency in American healthcare, and we have sent a list of principles to Congress to guide lawmakers in developing legislation that will limit surprise medical billing.

Further, we are fighting to ensure all Americans have the healthcare they deserve. I signed into law “Right to Try” legislation, giving terminally ill patients expanded access to care and treatment. I also announced a plan to invest \$500 million in pediatric cancer research over 10 years, and I signed an Executive Order that will significantly increase the supply of kidneys available for transplant. Moreover, I signed into law a \$1 billion increase in funding for critical Alzheimer’s research, and we have launched a campaign to end the HIV/AIDS crisis in America.

Thank you again for writing. To learn more about my health policies, please visit www.WhiteHouse.gov. As President, I am committed to improving public health and providing Americans with more affordable health insurance, access to more choices, and quality care.

Sincerely,

THE WHITE HOUSE
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