

Talking Points for Visiting Your Senator's Office

Here are a few quick tips and points to guide your conversation with your senator's office.

- First, introduce yourself to the staff member.
- If this is your first time visiting a local Senate office, make sure to mention that.
- Speak from the heart about why real health care reform matters so much to you. If you have a personal story about how health care costs are affecting you or your family, please share it if you're comfortable doing so.

Below are some points you'll want to make about the Senate Finance Bill when delivering the lemon and the flyer:

- **It doesn't include a public health insurance option.** As Paul Krugman writes, it "instead proposes a fake alternative, nonprofit insurance cooperatives—and it places so many restrictions on these cooperatives that, according to the Congressional Budget Office, they 'seem unlikely to establish a significant market presence in many areas of the country.'"¹
- **It's a sweetheart deal for insurance companies.** Wendell Potter, the insurance industry whistleblower, notes that it "would create a government-subsidized monopoly for the purchase of bare-bones, high-deductible policies that would truly benefit Big Insurance."²
- **It doesn't actually have bipartisan support.** George Stephanopoulos of ABC News news reports that a "top Democrat" complained of being "asked to support a bipartisan bill that doesn't have bipartisan support."³

¹ "Baucus and the Threshold," The New York Times, September 17, 2009

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/18/opinion/18krugman.html>

² "Wendell Potter: Public Option Essential, Baucus Plan an 'Absolute Gift' to Health Insurance Industry," The Huffington Post, September 15, 2009

<http://www.moveon.org/r?r=84743>

³ Sen. Jay Rockefeller Dumps on Baucus' Bill and No Snowe Yet," ABC News, September 15, 2009
<http://www.moveon.org/r?r=84723>