



**Association of
American Medical Colleges**
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Darrell G. Kirch, M.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

March 12, 2010

President Barack Obama
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) commends your efforts to achieve meaningful health insurance reform.

Every day, our nation's 131 medical schools, 400 teaching hospitals, and their 125,000 faculty educate 75,000 medical students; train 110,000 resident physicians and other health professionals; serve as centers of innovation and discovery; and provide one-fifth of all clinical care in the United States. We also provide forty percent of the nation's inpatient charity care, and on a daily basis see how a lack of insurance coverage affects people in the communities we serve.

While we have not agreed with every issue and policy in the reform bills passed in Congress, we strongly agree that we have reached the point at which our nation must recommit to the health of its people by taking the first step towards expanding health insurance coverage to all Americans.

Please know that you have our full support and commitment as you continue to work with the Congress to pass HR 3590 into law along with companion legislation that would make necessary changes to the Senate bill. We stand ready to provide input on important issues, such as ensuring adequate support for the health care safety net and steps to expand the workforce so that all Americans have access to care.

The AAMC and its members look forward to working with you and your administration to help improve the health care system for all Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darrell G. Kirch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Darrell G. Kirch, M.D.
President and CEO

cc: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
The Honorable Harry Reid