

Questions for Town Hall Meetings

August 4, 2009

Access to Care

1. President Obama said, “Maybe you’re better off not having the surgery, but taking a painkiller.”

What did he mean by that?

Aren’t these decisions that should be made by doctors and their patients?

2. President Obama told the American Medical Association there are too many tests, procedures, too many doctor visits, etc.

Is the government going to decide who gets what test?

Is the government going to tell doctors how to practice medicine?

How do we know patients won’t be denied care they really need, as they are in Britain and Canada?

3. President Obama told a national television audience, Patients are “going to have to give up paying for things that don’t make them healthier.”

Isn’t it a bad idea to have the government decide what care patients need?

Don’t most patients trust their own doctor more than bureaucrats in Washington, D.C.?

The Role of Congress

4. Will your representative promise to read any health care bill before voting on it? (Did he/she read the stimulus bill?)
5. Why are members of Congress unwilling to join the same “public plan” they are going to push millions of ordinary citizens into?

Health Care and the Economy

6. The House Health bill (HR 3200) would impose a tax of 10.5% of wages (8% on the employer; 2.5% on the employee) of workers who do not have adequate health insurance.

Why is this fair?

How does this help people who cannot afford insurance?

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7. The House health bill (HR 3200) would impose about \$800 billion in new taxes on the economy.

Does this make sense when we are in the middle of the worst recession in modern times?

Does mandating that employers provide health insurance make it more likely or less likely that they will hire more workers?

Does a tax on the income of small business owners make it more likely or less likely that they will create more jobs?

8. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) says mandating that employers provide health insurance will mean fewer jobs and less takehome pay.

Why punish working families at a time when so many are hurting?

Why not let employers and employees make their own decisions about wages and benefits?