

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Hillary Rodham Clinton
FR: Chris Jennings
RE: Monday meeting with Congressman Dickey
cc: Melanne, Lorraine, Steve, Distribution

June 5, 1993

On Monday you are scheduled to meet with Congressman Jay Dickey and 11 physicians from his home district. A list of the physicians, their professional affiliations, and their home towns are attached. Also in attendance will be the Congressman's Executive Assistant, Bob Brooks, Jr. Bob is a lawyer from Fort Smith, Arkansas and used to practice in Little Rock. (He mentioned he has met you before.)

BACKGROUND

Last month, I met with the Congressman and Bob. At that time he expressed some concern about the difficulty he had experienced in setting up an appointment with you. I assured him that there was nothing to it other than the extraordinary demands on your schedule. He also expressed concern about the lack of physician involvement; I cleared him up on that issue and he seemed relieved. We then went on to have a productive meeting that he seemed to genuinely appreciate. The primary issues he raised during the meeting were:

- (1) **Desire to be a visible (Republican) Cosponsor.** He said he really wanted to be a, if not the lead, Republican cosponsor of the Clinton health reform proposal.
- (2) **Meeting Desire for His Physician Working Group.** He wanted to show how he could get access for his physician working group to the First Lady. (By the way, no other Member of the Arkansas Congressional delegation has made a similar request.)
- (3) **Desire for Strong Malpractice Reform Provisions.** He said he could not sell the legislation without strong tort reform provisions. (I assured him that you wanted to address this issue in a very serious way.)
- (4) **Concern About Small Business Impact.** While he was concerned about the impact, he felt he could sell it IF it was perceived to be fair and affordable.

- (5) **Concern About Abortion Coverage.** He said such a provision would make it impossible for him to support the legislation.

According to the Congressman's staff, Monday's meeting will be one that primarily, if not solely, focuses on those issues of particular concern to physicians. Other than the malpractice issue, the other two most likely issues raised will be cost containment (and its impact on physicians) and sensitivity to the special needs of rural communities.

I believe that your usual comments about the need for administrative simplification, malpractice reform, special provisions for health care providers in rural areas, state and local flexibility, and modifications to CLIA will make this group of physicians very happy. You might also wish to discuss the role and participation of physicians on the work groups. The abortion issue and the small business concerns of the Congressman are not expected to come up.

PHYSICIANS IN ATTENDANCE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Specialty</u>	<u>Practice Location</u>
Jack Burge	General Surgeon	Lake Village
Charles Davis	Dermatologist	Pine Bluff
John Giller	Orthopedic Surgeon	El Dorado
Lloyd Langston	Ears, Nose, Throat	Pine Bluff
James Lindsey	Family Practice	Pine Bluff
Ralph Maxwell	Family Practice	Monticello
Kerry Pennington	General Practice	Warren
Richard Pillsbury	Ears, Nose, Throat	El Dorado
Carl Shipp	Ears, Nost, Throat	Texarkana
John Trieschmann	Pediatrician	Hot Springs
Lynn Zeno	ARK. MEDICAL SOCIETY	Little Rock