



## **Dr. Burgess' Prescriptions For Health Care Reform**

### **1. Insurance Reform**

We should eliminate the bias against patients with pre-existing conditions, outlaw rescissions except in cases of fraud, and ensure states have well-designed high-risk pools.

HR 6283 – The Guaranteed Access to Health Insurance Act of 2012

### **2. Tax Fairness**

Providing individuals the same tax benefits no matter where they want to get their health insurance, and tax credits to help individuals purchase insurance in the individual market.

### **3. Medical Liability Reform**

The success of Texas' 2003 reforms: Texas has licensed over 15,000 new physicians and Texas hospitals have delivered more than \$594 million in charity care.

HR 896 – Medical Justice Act

### **4. Portability**

Allowing patients to shop for health insurance plans across state lines = more choices at lower costs.

Example: Average health insurance premium for a family of four: New Jersey: \$10,000 – Pennsylvania: \$6,000 – Texas: \$5,000

### **5. Medicare Payment Reform**

The current formula Medicare uses to pay doctors – the SGR – is unstable, and a permanent fix is needed to ensure seniors continue to have access to their doctors.

### **6. Doctors to Care for America's Patients**

We must ensure that we have enough doctors to care for all of America's patients – now and in the future.

HR 6142 – Assuring Medicare Stability and Access for Seniors Act of 2012

### **7. Price Transparency**

Health care services are the only product that we don't know the actual cost of before utilization, so let's have the prices up-front, just like in a restaurant or clothing store.

HR 5800 - Health Care Price Transparency Promotion Act of 2012

### **8. Preventative Care and Wellness Programs**

Health care reform must include participation from America's patients, so living healthy lifestyles and making healthy decisions is very important.

### **9. Create Products People Want**

Mandates have no place in a free society. Instead, we should challenge insurance companies to create innovative health plans that Americans want. Example: Health Savings Account – offers flexibility and control