

# 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.

## 2. Tax credits to help individuals purchase insurance in individual market

HR 3218 – Improving Health Care for All Americans Act (Shadegg – AZ)

This would give patients purchasing power and more choices.

## 3. Medical Liability Reform

HR 1468 – Medical Justice Act

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.

## 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

HR 3693 – Ensuring the Future Physician Workforce Act

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

HR 914 – Physician Workforce Enhancement Act

We must make sure we have enough doctors to care for all of America's patients.

## 7. 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. I am working to improve access to nutritional food and healthy choices locally.

## 8. Price Transparency

HR 2249 - Health Care Price Transparency Promotion Act

Health care services are the only product 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.

## 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.

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