

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 4019 – Limiting Pre-Existing Condition Exclusions in All Health Insurance Markets \(Deal\)](#)

[HR 4020 – Guaranteed Access to Health Insurance Act \(Burgess\)](#)

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.

[HR 3218 – Improving Health Care for All Americans Act \(Shadegg\)](#)

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 1468 – Medical Justice Act \(Burgess\)](#)

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

[HR 3217 - Health Care Choice Act \(Shadegg\)](#)

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.

[HR 3693 – Ensuring the Future Physician Workforce Act \(Burgess\)](#)

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 914 – Physician Workforce Enhancement Act \(Burgess\)](#)

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 2249 - Health Care Price Transparency Promotion Act \(Burgess\)](#)

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.

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