

Obama's Health Transition Team To Hold Community Forums in December

During a speech in Denver, former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle announced (December 5) that President-elect Obama's transition team will hold a series of community forums on health care later in December to help finalized recommendations for the incoming administration. The forums are intended to give the transition team a chance to further develop ideas about how to achieve quality, affordable health care for all.

In his speech, Daschle outlined three problems he sees with the health care system – cost, access, and uneven quality – but emphasized the need to get citizens input on what they believe is the most pressing health care problem. Daschle is the leader of President-elect Obama's health policy transition team and expected nominee for the position of Secretary of Health and Human Services.

This is a great opportunity for ACP members to have a direct say on how to reform our health care system. For more information on how to participate in these forums or how to help organize one in your community, please visit the website of the transition team at <http://change.gov/> or to submit comments “on why health care is important to you, or what you'd like to see an Obama-Biden administration do and where you'd like the country to go” <http://change.gov/page/s/healthcare>.

Although ACP is unable to help you organize the forums, we would appreciate it if you would let us know if you hold one--and the results.

Click here to access a recent Washington Post article on this issue:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/12/05/AR2008120503322.html?nav=hcmoduletmv>.

To access recent and past state health policy reports go to the State Health Policy section on the Chapter Leadership Network (CLN) website or click on:

http://www.acponline.org/cln/health_policy.htm.

Please contact Shuan Tomlinson at 800-338-2746 ext. 4547 or by email at stomlinson@acponline.org with questions on these or other topics.

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