WASHINGTON BUREAU · NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
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November 3, 2009

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

via e-mail

RE: NAACP SUPPORT FOR H.R. 3962, THE *AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA ACT OF 2009*

Dear Speaker Pelosi;

On behalf of the NAACP, our nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization, I am writing to thank you for your leadership in crafting H.R. 3962, the *Affordable Health Care for America Act of 2009*. The NAACP strongly supports key provisions in this important legislation as it provides more affordable, quality coverage for all, addresses many of the health care disparities that have plagued our Nation for too long, and expands health insurance coverage choices, including being able to retain one's current coverage, have additional private plan options, and a public health insurance option designed to lower costs and keep insurance companies honest.

Americans today are too often struggling and straining under the burden of three related trends: shrinking health care coverage, rising health care costs or no health care insurance at all. Over the last decade, millions of Americans have found themselves uninsured, and millions more have become underinsured as the value of their coverage has declined. The provisions in H.R. 3962 which mandate premium assistance, reduced cost-sharing, and application of an out-of-pocket cap are central to making health care accessible and affordable to low and middle income individuals and families.

Thank you again for all you have done and are doing to fix our broken health care system. The NAACP greatly appreciates all that you have done and continue to do to address our concerns and those of our membership. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office at (202) 463-2940.

Sincerely,

Hilary O. Shelton
Director, NAACP Washington Bureau &
Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Policy