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PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Elias F. Ghanem, M.D.

November 9, 1993

Mrs. Hillary Rodham-Clinton,
The First Lady
White House
East Wing - Room 214
Washington, D.C.
20500

Dear First Lady,

You are first in our hearts because of your sensitive and dedicated
committment to the health concerns of all citizens.

We join your fans in wishing you a belated Happy Birthday!

Best Wishes,

Elias & Jody

Elias and Jody Ghanem

Elias J. Ghanem, M.D.

November 9, 1993

Ira Magaziner
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Old Executive Building - Room 216
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Magaziner:

I am writing this letter as a follow up to our meeting of November 2, 1993. First, I would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with me. It was a pleasure to discuss the President's Health Security Plan with you. As I told you during our discussions, I am confident that, through coordination with Senator Reid's office, I can obtain the endorsement of a substantial number of people within Nevada's health care community for the President's Health Care Plan.

To obtain these endorsements, I would first like to arrange for a private reception at my home between the First Lady and approximately one hundred members of Nevada's health care community. The individuals present at this reception would all be willing to publicly support the President's Health Care Plan. As such, this reception would provide me with the opportunity to organize a coalition of health care professionals who could then join in a united effort to garner further support among their peers for the President's Health Security Plan.

Following this reception, a fund raiser for Governor Miller would be held. This fund raiser would be attended by an additional six to twelve hundred health care professionals, all of whom would be willing to support the President's Health Plan. As we discussed, I believe that such a strong showing of support from Nevada's health care community would be of tremendous benefit to the President in his effort to solidify popular support for this Plan as it passes through Congress. In addition, this type of support might prove as a catalyst for obtaining similar support in other states.

As you know, I strongly support the President in his efforts to reform the nation's health care system. Through my many years as both a physician and as the owner/operator of one of Nevada's largest managed care systems, I have literally come to know almost every physician and hospital administrator within the state. And recently, large insurance companies, such as Aetna, have also entered into agreements with my provider network. Thus, I believe that I am in a unique position to organize and elicit support for the President's Health Care Plan among all segments of Nevada's health care community.

495 E Sahara Avenue • Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

Mr. Ira Magaziner
November 9, 1993
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While my willingness to offer my services is based in part upon my admiration and respect for both the President and the First Lady, it is also based upon my belief that America's health care system, if left unchanged, will soon collapse under its own weight. For some time now, every other modern culture has viewed access to health care as one of the most fundamental of all human rights. Yet, in America, access to health care is not viewed as a human right, it is viewed as a financial right. Based upon my conscience, as well as the oath I took when I became a physician, I can no longer tolerate practicing in a system that often offers a person their physical well-being only at the expense of their financial security. The mere fact many Americans consider suicide as a viable alternatives to continued medical treatment speaks volumes about the health care system in America.

President Clinton's Health Care Plan offers the chance to change this system. The sacrifices that will be required to accomplish this change pale in comparison to the benefits that will be realized by all Americans as a result of this change. Thus, I would consider it to be an honor to aid the President in accomplishing this change. In addition, I know that many other physicians and health care professionals share my same views. It is for this reason that I would like to organize a public showing of support among these individuals for the President's Health Care Plan.

Once again, I wish to thank you for taking the time to meet with me. As I have stated to you before, I look forward to assisting you in any way which I can. The President's Health Care Plan has my full and complete support, and, upon request, I will do everything possible to aid in the passage of this Plan.

Sincerely,


Elias F. Ghanem, M.D.

cc: Hillary Rodham-Clinton
Senator Harry Reid