

TAKE ACTION – SUBMIT YOUR TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 311!

Submit written testimony to CCHCC explaining why you support HB 311 and a single-payer health care plan for Illinois.

CCHCC will deliver written testimonies to the IL House Health Committee hearing on HB 311 on Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

Who can submit testimony? Everyone from the uninsured, underinsured and well-insured, to students and seniors can express their support for HB 311, single-payer health coverage for Illinois.

What should you include in your testimony?

Testimony should be one to two pages in length, and you may include a personal story in which you or someone you care about has been affected by the current health care access crisis, medical debt, or problems with private insurance which would be virtually eliminated if a single-payer insurance program was implemented here in Illinois. You can also provide concrete examples of how your life would be affected by a universal health care plan that covers all Illinoisans. Or you can simply state who you are (as a resident of Illinois), and express your support for the legislation. *All testimony should include a clear statement specifically declaring your support for HB 311 and single-payer health care, and a statement urging the legislators to support HB 311!*

Sample testimony:

Below is a sample of a testimony statement. However, if you are not able to write your own testimony but would like to use the sample below, please feel free to copy and paste the text below with any personal additions you would like to make, then sign the bottom and either mail or email the testimony to us.

The most effective testimony is that which has your handwritten signature on it, so if possible, please mail a hard copy with your signature to our office.

Dear Representatives,

I believe that every single Illinois resident deserves quality and affordable health care. Too many people live every day without health insurance, suffer from medical problems and can't afford the treatment, or are overwhelmed by medical debt that forces thousands into bankruptcy every year. For too long, the private insurance industry has decided who is able to receive health care, and now we find ourselves in the midst of a devastating health care access crisis. While the private insurance lobbyists in Washington drown out the voices of the public who are demanding a state-sponsored, universal health care reform that works for

the people, Illinois has the opportunity to be a champion of single-payer health care. That is why I am support passage of House Bill 311 – the “Health Care for All Illinois Act” and single-payer health care for all Illinoisans. I urge you to support HB 311 by becoming a co-sponsor of the legislation and voting yes for HB 311. Thank you.

How to submit your testimony:

Your written testimony should be submitted to CCHCC by Friday, March 20, 2009.

CCHCC will be delivering a stack of written testimony to Springfield to be presented to the Illinois House of Representatives Health Committee at the HB 311 hearing.

Mail your testimony to:
CCHCC
44 E. Main St., Suite 208
Champaign, IL 61820

Attn: Nick

OR, e-mail your testimony to Nick Gainer: nick@healthcareconsumers.org.

Please remember, a signed and mailed testimony can be more effective, as legislators prefer a more personalized response than an e-mail, but we will certainly take e-mailed testimonies!