



Advocates for Ohioans with Disabilities

July 24, 2001

COMMENTS ON THE GANSKE-DINGELL-NORWOOD PATIENT PROTECTION ACT--HR526

Please support passage of the Ganske-Dingell-Norwood Patient Protection Act - HR 526 or the Senate McCain-Edwards-Kennedy Act and oppose any attempts to amend or replace the bill with weaker legislation. Both of these bills contain the following priorities:

- Access to specialists for persons with chronic and complex illnesses, including standing referrals and a point of service option
- Access to an external/impartial treatment review process
- Access to needed medical advice, treatments and therapies, including experimental treatments, and a prohibition on financial incentives as a means of restricting care
- Reasonable, consistent cost-sharing and caps for medically necessary non-formulary drugs
- The right to continuity of care in cases of coverage or provider changes

Other bills do not include these priorities and may establish association health plans and medical savings accounts, which are harmful to those with disabilities or chronic illnesses.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Alice Sporar'.

Alice Sporar
President
AOD

- c: Rep. W. J. Tauzin, Chairman, Energy & Commerce Committee
✓ Rep. John D. Dingell, Rnk. Min. Member, Energy & Commerce Committee
Rep. Michael Bilirakis, Chairman, Subcommittee on Health
Rep. Sherrod Brown, Rnk. Min. Member, Subcommittee on Health
Rep. John A. Boehner, Chairman, Education & Workforce Committee
Rep. George Miller, Rnk. Min. Member, Education & Workforce Committee
Rep. Sam Johnson, Chairman, Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations
Rep. Robert E. Andrews, Rnk. Min. Member, Subcom. on Empl.-Empl. Relations
Rep. William M. Thomas, Chairman, Ways & Means Committee
Rep. Charles B. Rangel, Rnk. Min. Member, Ways & Means Committee
Rep. Nancy L. Johnson, Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Health
Rep. Pete Stark, Rnk. Min. Member, Subcommittee on Health
Ohio Members of the House of Representatives