



American
Chiropractic
Association

August 17, 2009

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The American Chiropractic Association (ACA) remains committed to helping America transform its current inefficient and outmoded “sick care” delivery system into a more modern, efficient and progressive system that places a high priority on the vital concepts of health promotion, wellness and disease prevention. By working together to create a “paradigm shift” to a health delivery system focusing on wellness and disease prevention, we can achieve the laudable goal of expanding care to those who lack coverage while at the same time making health care better and more affordable for all Americans.

Mr. President, as you noted in your recent town hall meeting of August 11, our nation faces a shortage of trained primary care providers who are capable of meeting the basic needs of our nation’s aging population. Please be assured of the chiropractic profession’s willingness and ability to help address this problem in a major way—as our profession is the second largest portal-of-entry, primary care, doctoral-level health profession in the United States, exceeded only in number by medical doctors and dentists. Doctors of Chiropractic (DCs)—70,000 STRONG—treat an estimated 30 million patients annually, focusing on conservative, holistic, non-surgical, non-pharmaceutical approaches to health care. Doctors of Chiropractic are well qualified through their education to perform as first-contact, portal-of-entry doctors, and perfectly suited to help fill the workforce gap via their high-quality, patient-centered, primary care services, which our nation so desperately needs.

Given the important primary care role currently played by America’s Doctors of Chiropractic—*coupled with the capacity to further expand this role*—we urge you to fully engage the ACA and the chiropractic profession in the process of health care reform. In many respects the ACA and the chiropractic profession *have always been on the leading edge* when it comes to advocating, practicing, and advancing the nation toward a more conservative, wellness-based health delivery system, and we would appreciate any opportunity for *meaningful dialog* with you and your Administration to further your work for the public good and achievement of the patient-centered goals we share. ACA representatives would be honored to meet with you and/or your designated representative(s) to discuss how these progressive views regarding health promotion, wellness and integrative care can be successfully included as an important element in your reform efforts, helping to reduce *the primary care provider shortage and the overall costs of health care*.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue of vital importance to the American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Glenn D. Manceaux". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Glenn D. Manceaux, DC
President