

Resolution Urging Congress to Start Over on Health-Care Reform

*Adopted by the Board of Governors of the Manufacturer & Business Association
March 5, 2010*

WHEREAS, the rising cost of health care, fewer choices and less secure coverage leave little doubt that serious issues plague our nation's health-care system, and individuals and families are being forced to pay more while being offered less; and

WHEREAS, the Manufacturer & Business Association (MBA) is extremely concerned about health-care reform legislation put forth by Congress, and believes that attempts to nationalize the American health-care system are bad for business, bad for jobs, and bad for economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, the MBA believes the aforementioned legislation is so fundamentally flawed that it will not only raise costs for businesses through billions of dollars in new taxes, but also will threaten the quality of care for employees; and

WHEREAS, the MBA believes that now is the time to start over on health-care reform, and that a joint effort between Congressional Democrats and Republicans should address what Americans are looking for in reform – affordability, accessibility, portability and quality, not a one-size-fits-all approach; and

WHEREAS, the MBA believes that individuals and small businesses should be able to pool together to purchase high-quality and affordable health-care coverage, and purchase insurance policies across state lines; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families who purchase their own coverage should be offered tax relief, and Americans encouraged to save for current and future health-care needs through health savings accounts; and

WHEREAS, individuals with pre-existing conditions or past illnesses deserve the right to access affordable coverage through the expansion of state-based, high-risk pools and reinsurance programs; and

WHEREAS, the MBA believes that the passage of medical liability reform would put an end to frivolous lawsuits that drive up costs; and

WHEREAS, the MBA encourages federal-state partnerships to preserve diversity across states in order to achieve common national goals like portability; and

WHEREAS, the MBA believes funds should be redirected to restructure health-care spending in order to make it more effective; and

WHEREAS, the MBA rejects any attempt by the federal government to force individual mandates, rationing and special deals for any state; and

WHEREAS, the MBA rejects any attempt to implement a government-run insurance program; and

WHEREAS, the MBA rejects a separate set of rules for government and private sector health insurance purchases; and

WHEREAS, the MBA opposes any plan that cuts Medicare coverage; and

WHEREAS, the MBA ultimately rejects any proposal that authorizes a government takeover of any portion of our health-care system.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the MBA Board of Governors opposes all current health-care reform legislation in Congress, including HR 3962, the Affordable Health Care for America Act and HR 3590, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, or any similar legislation. The Board of Governors is committed to working with policymakers to oppose the passage of this legislation, and urges the President and Congress to listen to the will of the American people and start over, working toward reform that lowers costs, improves care, and fosters economic recovery and job creation.