



# National Association of Health Underwriters

*America's Benefits Specialists*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 22, 2010**

**Contact: Kelly Loussedes, Vice President of Public Relations**  
**(703) 276-3835 or [kloussedes@nahu.org](mailto:kloussedes@nahu.org)**

## **NAHU STATEMENT ON WHITE HOUSE HEALTH CARE REFORM PLAN**

(Arlington, VA) – Janet Trautwein, CEO of the National Association of Health Underwriters (NAHU), made the following statement today in response to the White House health care reform proposal:

“President Obama has publically acknowledged that current health care reform proposals lack broad appeal. Unfortunately he did not use this opportunity to promote a bipartisan plan that improves access to quality health care without risking our nation’s financial security. The White House plan will exacerbate our nation’s economic crisis by driving up private health insurance costs so significantly that millions of American families and businesses will be priced out of coverage, disrupting the quality coverage on which millions of Americans rely.

“Health care costs are rising at an unsustainable rate, and if we don’t get these costs under control, we will no longer be able to pay for the top-notch medical care that most Americans enjoy today. The high cost of health care is the primary problem with our current system, and unfortunately the President’s plan does little to truly rein in these costs.

“We need to get health care right for all Americans. We don’t need to jeopardize the Medicare program by making cuts in the wrong areas. We don’t need to jeopardize job growth and economic prosperity by burdening our employers with a new mandate to provide the government’s idea of appropriate health care coverage to those the government decides it should be provided to and at a cost determined by the government. We don’t need new market reforms that come at a cost so high that no one can afford to buy the reformed coverage. And we most certainly do not need tens of billions of dollars in new taxes and insurer fees that will result in increased premium costs for all privately insured Americans.

“What we do need is health reform that reduces the cost of coverage, and reasonable and responsible efforts to make coverage affordable for more people. We have long advocated for members of Congress and the Administration to work together in a bipartisan fashion to develop an affordable and responsible means of achieving the needed reforms to our nation’s health care delivery system. Americans are desperate for health care reform but are clearly not on board with the budget-busting bills currently under consideration.”

The National Association of Health Underwriters represents more than 100,000 professional health insurance agents and brokers who provide insurance for millions of Americans. For more information, please contact Kelly Loussedes, vice president of public relations at 703-276-3835 or [kloussedes@nahu.org](mailto:kloussedes@nahu.org).

###