

Esteemed Members of the Committee:

A public option would expand significantly the number of people who can afford medical care. As a physician, I have seen the devastating results of a system that wastes huge amounts of insurance funds intended for medical care but which ends up in the pockets of investors and private companies who profit from

- squeezing the insured from getting adequate care by limiting, delaying and often denying coverage
- spending money for advertising
- getting “cost plus” rates approved that insure that the investors can get a growing return on their investments
- paying exorbitant salaries to administrators

Public service non-profit medical services such as Medicaid and Medicare are popular and essential, and such insurance should be available to all, and should substantially reduce the overall costs of medical care.

David Bingham, MD