



# 42<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District DEMOCRATS

November 8, 2009

Representative Rick Larsen  
Bellingham Towers  
119 N. Commercial Street, Suite 1350  
Bellingham, WA 98225

Dear Congressman Larsen,

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District Democrats would like to thank you for your YES vote on HR 3962. We are proud of the work you did on the Medicare portions of this historic bill. Your strong stance will benefit seniors in the State of Washington. Your vote on this bill will allow all of us to have access to health care without fear of pre-existing rules or rescission of our policies.

As we all are aware, the status quo on the current health care insurance system is unsustainable. Far too many of our fellow Washington citizens are struggling to afford quality health care or access to insurance; many are forced into bankruptcy or in not receiving timely care. The passage of this bill is a critical first step in getting reform that will work not just for the people here in Whatcom County, but throughout this country.

Within the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District here in Washington your yes vote on the Affordable Health Care Act for America will:

- Improve employer-based coverage for 480,000 residents
- Provide credits to help pay for coverage for up to 173,000 households
- Improve Medicare for 110,000 beneficiaries, including closing the prescription donut hole
- Allow 21,100 small businesses to obtain affordable health care coverage
- Provide coverage for 60,000 uninsured residents
- Protect up to 1,200 families from bankruptcy due to unaffordable health care costs
- Reduce uncompensated care costs for hospitals and providers by \$76 million

Again, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District Democrats thank you for your work on this historic piece of legislation. We applaud your staff for their hard work in listening to constituents on both sides of the issue. We know this was not easy and that your decision came from careful consideration of the all aspects of HR3962. Thank you Representative Larsen!

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