

(July 10, 2008) Lipinski Helps Introduce Bill to Provide Affordable Health Care for All Americans

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Common-sense Solution to Health Care Crisis Has Broad Bipartisan, Bicameral Support

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Dan Lipinski (D-IL) joined a bipartisan group of representatives in introducing H.R. 6444, the Healthy Americans Act, an innovative solution that would provide all Americans with access to affordable, quality, private health insurance and help rein-in health care costs.

"American families continue to struggle with the skyrocketing cost of health care and more than 48 million Americans have no health insurance," said Lipinski. "Unfortunately, gridlock in Washington has blocked any comprehensive solution to America's health care crisis. That is why I am proud to be joining a bipartisan group of representatives and senators in introducing this innovative and workable plan that will reshape our health care system to ensure all Americans have access to quality, affordable health care."

The Healthy Americans Act would:

- Ensure that all Americans will be able to afford coverage and receive care even if they lose or change their job
- Guarantee the availability of affordable health insurance by eliminating discrimination based on pre-existing conditions
- Preserve choices in health care
- Focus insurance companies on keeping Americans healthy by encouraging the practice of preventative medicine
- Contain the rising costs of health care by promoting competition and reducing existing inefficiencies, saving \$1.48 trillion
- Generate an overall savings for taxpayers

"Now is the time to take action and work toward implementing a more affordable, flexible, and comprehensive way to provide health care coverage for all Americans," stated Lipinski. "The Healthy Americans Act takes a common sense, market-based approach toward increasing health care options and saves money for taxpayers. The broad support for this bill across parties demonstrates the real possibility for implementing this innovative plan when the next president takes office. Reforming the American health care system is not an easy task, but we must take bold steps and we must get it done."