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Hon. Solomon Ortiz  
2110 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Via Hand Delivery**

Congressman Ortiz:

I am writing to ask you to vote against the health care bill now before Congress. Not only is this bill too expensive and too complex, it removes control of healthcare from the people and their doctors and gives it to government bureaucrats.

Americans want common sense solutions to our health care concerns. We need reforms that our nation can afford, that will lower health care costs, expand access to quality care and not unduly burden the backbone of the American economy, small businesses. We cannot betray our seniors who rely on Medicare and we must not fund abortions with tax dollars.

Here are some things we can do to improve the best healthcare system in the world:

- Let families and businesses buy health insurance across state lines.
- Allow health insurance pools so people and small businesses can get lower prices.
- Stand up for the 10th Amendment by getting out of the way and giving states the tools to create their own innovative health care reforms.
- Pass tort reform to help end frivolous lawsuits so doctors and health care providers can care for patients without fear of being plagued by meritless lawsuits.

The whole "Obamacare" debacle has shaken Americans' respect for Congress. The cynical back room deals to gain support from wavering legislators are appalling. The procedural trickery now being considered to move this bill forward is dishonorable and a disgrace to the principles upon which our government was founded.

As a Republican candidate for Congress in District 27, it would be better for me politically if you voted for the legislation. The people of your district and the citizens of the United States do not want it and I suspect it will be one of the biggest issues in the November elections. I cannot, however, simply sit on the sidelines and let this go through. I believe I must do everything in my power to stop one of the greatest threats to our American way of life in decades. It is my request to you, and my prayer, that you vote no on this legislation.

Sincerely

R. Blake Farenthold