

With the House set to pass the most sweeping health care reform since the creation of Medicare, I'm proud to report that middle class families, seniors, small businesses and young people throughout upstate New York stand to benefit substantially. In the district I represent, the health care reform bill will:

- **Improve coverage for 415,000 residents** with health insurance.
- **Give tax credits and other assistance to up to 158,000 families and 16,100 small businesses** to help them afford coverage. A tax credit of up to 50 percent of the cost of providing coverage will be available to 93 percent of small businesses.
  - **Improve Medicare for 109,000 beneficiaries**, including closing the gap in prescription drug coverage for seniors known as the "donut hole."
- **Extend coverage to 47,000 uninsured residents.**
- **Guarantee that 10,900 residents with pre-existing conditions can obtain coverage.**
- **Protect 900 families from bankruptcy** due to unaffordable health care costs.
- **Allow 68,000 young adults to obtain coverage** on their parents' insurance plans.

This legislation represents an important step for the upstate New Yorkers who continue to struggle with rising health care costs and limited choices. It will make coverage more affordable for everyone and hold insurance companies accountable; it will stop the denial of coverage because of a pre-existing condition; it will prevent the dropping of your coverage when you get sick; and it will make sure the practice of arbitrarily hiking up insurance premiums is ended. That's why I am proud to support it.

You can learn more about how the bill will affect people throughout our area by [clicking here](#) .