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[Honorable members of Utah's congressional delegation, President of the United States, and Majority and Minority leaders of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives]

Protecting Consumers Against Health Insurance Premium Increases

As implementation of the Affordable Care Act has unfolded, both the Obama administration and Congress have been accused of taking actions that subvert the original intent of the legislation. These actions have included the regulatory prioritization of reinsurance payments owed to insurers over reinsurance payments owed to the Department of Treasury, and the congressional prohibition of public funding needed to ensure the risk corridors program meets its objectives.

On behalf of the Utah Legislature's Health Reform Task Force, we encourage efforts to ensure that the Affordable Care Act's three premium stabilization programs — reinsurance, risk corridors, and risk adjustment — more perfectly protect insurers against the increased risks associated with implementation of the act. In particular, we encourage full funding of the statutory risk corridors formula. In Utah, limited funding of the formula has led to increased premiums and the closure of at least one insurer.

Sincerely,

Senator Allen M. Christensen
Senate Chair, Health Reform Task Force

Representative James A. Dunnigan
House Chair, Health Reform Task Force