

Honorable Russ Carnahan  
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**ED  
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Re: Carnahan Town Hall on Health Care

January 8, 2010

Dear Congressman Carnahan,

This letter is a follow-up to my December 15, 2009 letter in which I strongly urged that you meet with our voters for open dialogue and questions BEFORE you vote again in the House. After that vote, it will be too late for the Third District's opinion to help shape a final version of Obama Care. I have not heard from you or your staff and am sending this letter to you today to renew my request and to – hopefully – make it easier for you to have your town hall meeting on health care.

Since I sent you my letter last month, I have heard from constituents of their real desire and need to ask questions and hear from their elected officials. I set up an on-line petition to gauge their interest and have had close to 500 people sign up or call about it.

To make it easier for you, I have chosen a convenient venue and time when I know the Congress is not in session for this important opportunity for your constituents to be heard and to hear from you. Please join me at the Two Hearts Banquet Hall on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 7 pm. I have reserved this hall and it will have stadium seating. (Two Hearts is in south St. Louis County at the intersection of Gravois and Lindbergh.)

I offer you the opportunity to speak at the start of the session (for 10 minutes) and then to stay and hear from the many concerned citizens about the health care issues that impact them and their questions about the current bills. I will speak for 10 minutes about my impression of the bill. After this, I plan to invite some of the health care professionals and policy folks that I mentioned in my previous letter to comment briefly (3-5 minutes). All told, this early part of the program (you, me, and the other speakers mentioned above) must be no more than 30-35 minutes so that we can listen and respond to the citizens who will ask questions and raise concerns. The Carnahan Town Hall on Health Care will be open to the public and I encourage you to invite and encourage others to attend.

Thanks for being willing to meet with the citizens. See you next week.

All the best.



Ed Martin