

Correspondence – American Chiropractic Association

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AMERICAN CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION

August 26, 1974

Honorable Jimmy Carter
1974 Campaign Chairman
Democratic National Committee
P.O. Box 1524
Atlanta, Georgia 30301

Dear Governor Carter:

This is in response to your much-appreciated request of July 24th for suggestions identifying particular issues which should be addressed by political candidates this year.

The American people are deeply concerned about the availability and costliness of health services. Please note, I refer to "health services," not "medical services," since the American people demand a variety of health services which are broader than those provided by doctors of medicine. And they are looking to the Federal Government to assure some system of financing health services which will enable use of all of the magnificent health-preserving and health-curing potentialities of the various health services which are officially licensed and recognized within the United States.

(Therefore, we believe that it would be important for political candidates to address themselves to the problems of national health insurance and other health services, in a manner consistent with the following principles:

- (1) Universal Eligibility, through comprehensive coverage in national health insurance for all people, irrespective of income;
- (2) Comprehensive Health Care Benefits, including ambulatory, preventive and rehabilitative services, through providing the services of all State-licensed health care providers, including doctors of chiropractic;

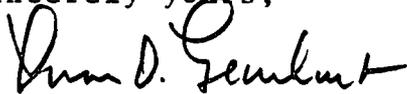
Hon. Jimmy Carter

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- (3) Public Protection, through appropriate controls over the cost and quality of health services, including peer review of each health care profession by members of that profession itself.
- (4) Freedom of Choice, through statutory guarantees of the freedom of choice of health-care provider, including the right to choose a doctor of chiropractic instead of a doctor of medicine, if that be the consumer's choice.
- (5) Equity in Expenditure of Federal Funds, through guarantees that all state-licensed health professions, including chiropractic, should be equally eligible for, and receive, Federal grants and expenditures for research, educational facilities, scholarships and fellowships, construction grants and other forms of financing health professions and institutions.

I hope that these comments are helpful, and shall be happy to provide any further information respecting the vital contribution of chiropractic to the preservation and advancement of the nation's health.

Sincerely yours,



Louis O. Gearhart, D.C.
Executive Director

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