

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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CONTACT: CLARKSON HINE  
(202) 224-5358

## HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

CREATING ENEMIES LIST IS NOT THE WAY TO GO ABOUT REFORMING  
OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM; ALL SIDES NEED TO AVOID INFLAMMATORY  
RHETORIC -- PUBLIC WANTS FACTS, NOT FICTION

There has been much attention in the past few days to the comments made by Mrs. Clinton with respect to the insurance industry. In past weeks, we have also heard about the alleged excesses of the pharmaceutical industry. It's possible the future could bring criticism of other players in the national health care debate -- hospitals perhaps, or physicians or dentists or anyone.

Let there be no mistake, there are real problems to be faced as we do our best to reform our health care delivery system. But, in my view, creating an enemies list is not the way to go about it.

There are bad apples in every barrel. That is true of the health care industry as well as other industries. Certainly this Senator is well aware of the shortcomings of the insurance industry when it comes to the availability of reasonably priced insurance coverage for individuals and small business. But there is also a lot to be proud of in our health care system, a firm foundation upon which we should build a better delivery and financing system.

Because there are no easy answers to these difficult challenges, it will often be tempting to blame someone or something.

Those opposed to what we propose will also be tempted to put forward the most pessimistic view. If we ever hope to reach a bipartisan consensus both sides need to avoid such actions. Inflammatory rhetoric will not bring us closer together.

Industry representations as to the potential affects of reform must be fair, as must our response. The public deserves no less. They want the facts, not fiction.

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Remarks delivered on the Senate floor, approximately 4:40 PM, ET.