

December 31, 2014

Dear ,

The Utah Academy of Family Physicians, representing over 800 family medicine physicians, residents and medical students in Utah, wishes to express support of Governor Herbert's Healthy Utah plan. As family physicians we feel it is important that all Utahns have access to basic health services. The Governor's plan provides an opportunity to cover Utahns who are currently uncovered and at significant risk for poor health.

Other proposed options, such as offering coverage to only the medically frail, means that by definition we are choosing to wait until people are damaged before getting them coverage. Some of the most important services that Family Physicians offer are preventative services and screenings that stop people from becoming sick in the first place. This is an important and sound investment in the future of our state, both medically and economically. It is clear that broader health care coverage is needed by tens of thousands of Utah citizens – your constituents. Governor Herbert, Dr. Patton and his team at the Department of Health have worked extremely hard and negotiated in good faith with the Obama Administration to offer a compromise that carefully balances the needs of Utah's uninsured with the fiscally sound policy decisions for which Utah is famous.

We ask for you to carefully consider and support any legislation in the upcoming year that would codify the Healthy Utah Plan. Should you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office or our Executive Committee.

Sincerely,

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