



**UTAH MANUFACTURERS**  
ASSOCIATION

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear Elected Official,

On behalf of the nearly 1,000 member companies, who are members of the Utah Manufacturers Association (UMA), we want to state our position on the Healthy Utah Plan. The UMA has been the “voice of industry” in Utah for 110 years. Our mission is to enhance the business climate in Utah and we feel that a healthy workforce creates a strong workforce.

Achieving affordable, quality healthcare coverage is a critical priority for the UMA. An improved healthcare system with greater access to more efficient, higher quality, and affordable healthcare requires collaboration of public and private stakeholders and individual consumers. As Utah’s voice of industry, we urge all manufacturers, suppliers, and partners to promote healthcare reform consistent with our key healthcare objectives and principles:

- **Public/Private Partnership** | the Healthy Utah Plan preserves the public/private partnership in delivering medical coverage to low-income, working Utahns. The Healthy Utah Plan strengthens the private market by subsidizing the cost of health insurance on the private market when no employer-sponsored insurance (ESI) is offered, enrolling and subsidizing cost of ESI when it is offered, and offering Medicaid to those who truly need it, the medically frail.
- **Private Sector Involvement** | the private sector has a strong role in the Healthy Utah Plan, creating a system with multi-stakeholder responsibility, including individual responsibility. Manufacturers have much to share when it comes to efficiency, effectiveness, and the economic impact of rising costs. Private sector innovation, efficiencies and fiscal responsibility can help make quality healthcare available to all Utah workers.
- **Good Fiscal Policy** | Right now we are all paying our taxes to the federal government to pay for a program no one is receiving benefits from. Working Utah families pay on average an extra \$1,000 in health care premiums to cover the cost of the uninsured. And Utah is one of the most charitable states in the country, yet we still have thousands going without health insurance. We can do better.

The Healthy Utah Plan will help stabilize healthcare costs by 1) expanding the private health insurance pool, 2) reducing the cost-shift from hospitals to consumers as they see fewer uninsured patients, and 3) improving the overall health of our workforce, resulting in fewer missed days of work.

The UMA asks that you consider and support the Healthy Utah Plan. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Matt Holton, Director of Operations for the Utah Manufacturers Association.

Respectfully yours,

Todd R. Bingham, President and CEO  
Utah Manufacturers Association