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February 24, 2010

**Coalition of Colorado non-profits releases report:
“Case Studies: The Human Impact of 2010 Health Care
Reform”**

Report Demonstrates that without reform Coloradans will continue to suffer

Denver, Colo. -- A new report details the high cost if legislators do nothing to fix the health care crisis, and the report uses specific examples to illustrate how the nation's dysfunctional system overburdens families, hamstringing businesses and exacts a cruel toll on those unfortunate enough to be sick, injured or laid off.

The report was produced to clarify the specific impacts of health care legislation being considered in Congress. It was produced by a coalition of nonprofits and includes the situations of real people around Colorado.

The analysis was completed by the Colorado Center on Law and Policy and the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative. Supporting groups include Colorado Change That Works, Progress Now Colorado, Colorado Public Interest Research Group and Service Employees International Union Local 105.

“People from across Colorado would benefit from comprehensive health care reform,” said Kjersten Forseth, state director of Colorado Change That Works. “This report not only demonstrates the positive impact comprehensive health care reform would have on many Coloradans, but also shows the stark realities of inaction.”

The report, which is attached to this release, includes an analysis of five unique Coloradans’ stories. These examples illustrate the impact the legislation would have on an unemployed senior, a doctor, a mid-level manager, a well-known restaurateur and a successful non-profit. It also reveals how a lack of reform would affect these individuals and institutions. The five Coloradans are:

- **Donna Galassi**, a 47-year-old married woman with two grown children. Galassi is starting up a new web design business, but gets her insurance through her husband. Her case study demonstrates the impact health care reform will have on people currently insured.

- **Dr. Jack Dillon**, an emergency room physician in Colorado Springs at Penrose-St. Francis Hospital who is literally on the front lines of the health care debate. Dr. Dillon's case study shows the patients he sees cannot afford the prescriptions they need or the money to receive the follow-up care, but will see significant changes with reform.
- **Peggy Woodward**, a 60-year-old single woman, who was the project manager for a telecom company earning about \$70,000 per year, but was laid off in 2008 and remains unemployed and unable to buy insurance. With reform, she would qualify for Medicaid, and were she to purchase insurance through the exchange, she would be guaranteed continued health insurance coverage and would be able to renew such coverage without restrictions, such as pre-existing conditions, gender, or health status.
- **Robert Tournier**, owner of Le Central, known for 29 years as the affordable French restaurant. He provides health insurance to 25 full-time employees. His annual premiums increased 25 percent in 2009, and nine percent for 2010. Le Central would like to offer the same health insurance to all employees, but has considered dropping health insurance coverage for employees because the cost has become so high.
- The **Colorado Children's Campaign (CCC)** is a successful non-profit small business with a total of 12 full time employees and 3 part time employees, and an annual operating budget of approximately \$1.6 million. The Children's Campaign purchases coverage in the small group market. As a result, they could see substantial premium cost improvements over their current situation under health care reform.

This report shows that across the board, health care legislation would provide real and tangible benefits for nearly every American.

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