



June 12, 2016

Colorado Commission on Affordable Health Care
cocostcomm@keystone.org

Dear Members of the Cost Commission:

Thank you for your efforts to address the issues surrounding ever rising health care costs in Colorado. The Health Care for All Colorado Foundation works to educate Colorado's residents about the best ways we can address issues surrounding universal access to care and the costs for that care.

We have developed a list of recommendations that would bring some much-needed transparency to the health care system in Colorado. These are steps that would be a start to addressing some of the most obvious areas of waste, fraud and abuse in our health care system.

1. Make all hospital CHARGEMASTERS public
2. Make all health insurance and hospital administrators salaries public
3. Demand that Colorado reinstitute a "Certificate of Need" for all new hospital construction and capital expenditures.

While these are all steps that should be welcomed by all, we suspect that there would be great reluctance to pursue these goals as the providers would likely push back forcefully at the notion of being more fully accountable to the public. HCACF believes that until we identify and confront some of the systemic price gouging and waste, we will only be make minimal progress in stemming the tide of rising costs that make health care such an enormous drain on individuals, families, businesses, communities and our state.

Thank you, and please feel free to contact us should you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Donna S. Smith
Executive Director, writing for the HCACF board of directors
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