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News Brief

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America's Agenda: Health Care for All Co-Sponsors "National Coalition of Health Reform Coalitions" in Calling on Congress and the Obama Administration to Complete Health Care Reform

This morning, America's Agenda joined with a broad "National Coalition of Health Reform Coalitions" at a press conference calling on the White House and Congress to continue their efforts to enact health care reform that Americans need, now, more than ever.

"President Obama and Congressional leaders deserve our appreciation and respect for the work they've done," commented America's Agenda President Doug Dority. "They have moved health care reform further than any effort in a century.

"But the job isn't done, yet," said Dority. "It will take courage and determination. It will take plain speaking to the American people. And it will take advocates like those assembled today mobilizing to support elected leaders with the heart to finish a job critical to the well-being of American businesses and families."

There are a number of plausible options for moving health care reform forward this year, despite the loss of the Democrats' 60-vote supermajority in the Senate. Spokespeople at the press conference detailed one option consisting of Senate passage of a companion health reform bill closing key differences between the Senate and House bills using the budget reconciliation track. This approach would require a simple majority of Senators. Then, following House of Representatives' passage of the original Senate bill and the companion bill closing the key differences, both pieces of legislation could be forwarded to the President for his signature.

Along with *America's Agenda: Health Care for All*, the following organizations co-sponsoring today's press conference included: National Coalition on Health Care Action Fund, Families USA, Health Care for America Now (HCAN) Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), SEIU, AFSCME, American College of Cardiology, California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), Change to Win, Communications Workers of America, Doctors for America, Easter Seals, League of Women Voters, Mainstreet Alliance, National Physicians Alliance, and Small Business Majority.

