

# STATEMENT OF IOWA HEALTH CARE REFORM PRINCIPLES

*Produced by the Iowa CareGivers Association and the Better Jobs Better Care Coalition Health Care Reform Workgroup*

*As a state grounded in Midwestern sensibilities and a national leader in insurance, all Iowans can and must move forward to establish our own vision of health care reform. Our goal is healthier Iowans leading longer, more enjoyable and more productive lives. This goal will become reality as we create a health care system that delivers quality, value and improved health outcomes.*

The principles that will guide the reform movement are as follows:

- Iowa's economic vitality requires the availability of affordable health care coverage to attract and retain a skilled workforce.
- All Iowans will have access to affordable health care coverage to promote health security and treat illness or injury.
- Health care coverage for Iowans will be comprehensive and will give increased focus to preventive-care vs. sick-care.
- Health care coverage and health care service delivery need to be simple to understand and easy to use.
- Health care coverage will be available to all Iowans at all times. If an individual changes jobs, reduces hours of paid work or leaves the workforce, an alternative to employer-provided coverage will be available.
- Access to health care coverage does not guarantee access to health and long term care services. In order for Iowans to have access to the services they need, an adequate supply of health and long term care professionals must exist throughout the state.
- Iowans will promote their own health and well-being by becoming better educated about health promotion and by adopting healthier lifestyles. They will contribute as they are able to the cost of their health coverage and their health care.
- Iowa businesses will partner with Iowans by contributing to the cost of health care, by assisting in promoting health education and wellness, and by expecting excellence from all providers involved in caring for employees and their families.
- Reform of health care delivery and financing will be accomplished in an inclusive way; involving individuals, employees, employers, organizations, the medical and insurance communities, and government.
- The government will promote health care quality, access and affordability for all Iowans, and assist in financing the health care costs of Iowans with lower incomes.



*The Iowa CareGivers Association is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. Our mission is to enhance the quality of care by providing education, recognition, advocacy, and research in support of direct care workers. We do not have a political action committee (PAC), endorse political candidates, or contribute money to political parties or political candidates' campaigns.*