

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Wally Herger (R-CA), Ranking Member of the Ways & Means Subcommittee on Health, issued the following statement supporting a request made by C-SPAN that all future health care negotiations and conference committee meetings be made public through media coverage:

“The American people have continued to make their opposition to a government takeover of healthcare known and I am disappointed that the President and Congressional Democrats have again chosen to meet behind closed doors to finalize their plan. President Obama has promised that health care negotiations would be televised, but as Democrats have rammed this bill through Congress, that promise has been ignored again and again. The motivation for this is obvious: The American people don’t want government in charge of their health care. Instead, they want real reform that will lower costs and improve access to quality care.

“This is not the way Washington should work and it is completely inconsistent with President Obama and Speaker Pelosi’s assurances of an open and honest government. The future of health care in America should not be decided behind closed doors and under the influence of special interests and backroom deals. I believe that we must allow the American public into the room and the President and Congress should live up to their promises. C-SPAN has pledged that it will provide all necessary resources so that the American people will have full disclosure as to what is going on during the conference negotiations and I urge the President and Democrat leadership to take them up on the offer.”

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