

White House Issues Town Hall Report

On March 5, 2009, the Obama Administration issued a report summarizing the information obtained from many town-hall style meetings hosted by many, including the MMA, around the country during December 2008. The report is entitled, Americans Speak on Health Reform: Report on Health Care Community Discussions is now posted on a new White House web site dedicated to health care reform, www.healthreform.gov.

The report includes feedback from more than 30,000 participants. The top concerns cited by respondents included:

- the cost of care (55%);
- lack of preventive care (20%);
- pre-existing conditions limiting insurance access (13%); and
- concerns about the quality of care (12%).

Participants expressed support for a system that is:

- fair (36%);
- patient-centered (19%);
- simple & efficient (17%); and
- comprehensive (15%).