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**Congressional Candidate Scott Spencer's
Healthcare Security Initiative Speech
Tuesday, January 26, 2010
Angelo's Luncheonette
Wilmington, DE**

As the President prepares to deliver the State of the Union address this week, the state of providing healthcare coverage for small businesses, seniors, the unemployed and millions of other Americans is in critical condition.

Today, a car accident will leave a driver with injuries so severe he will be unable to keep his job and the health insurance coverage needed for recovery and rehabilitation. Today, a single mom, working paycheck to paycheck, is home sick, without pay, worrying about the loss in pay when in fact she is facing the loss of her life because of the cancer that has gone undetected without the health insurance that she needs to see a doctor. Today, a family will lose a beloved father to a heart attack because he needed the medicine and medical treatment that were denied after he was laid off and lost his health insurance.

To ignore these needs is not what our founding fathers had in mind for the American dream of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. For over 45 million Americans, the pursuit of the American Dream is threatened by the nightmare of living everyday without healthcare insurance.

At a time when the need for healthcare is so great why are we doing so little to help our fellow Americans? To fulfill the promise of the Constitution "...to form a more perfect Union" we need to rededicate ourselves to the American tradition of taking care of our own by organizing a triage team approach to develop the healthcare security solution needed to protect and save lives.

Today, I am proposing a Healthcare Security Initiative to provide an innovative, clear path forward for Congress to provide healthcare coverage for Americans whose lack of healthcare insurance is causing them to suffer and die needlessly in the country with the best healthcare system in the world.

Key elements of the Healthcare Security Initiative include:

- Creation of a bi-partisan, independent Healthcare Security Commission
- The Healthcare Security Commission would draft healthcare insurance legislation for uninsured Americans for a straight-up or straight-down vote, with no amendments, by Congress no later than October 1, 2010. The goal of the commission is to work without political interference to develop the best recommendations for a Healthcare Security Plan in the same manner that the Base Realignment and Closing Commission (BRAC) provides Congress with recommendations on controversial military base closings.
- The Healthcare Security Commission meetings will be open to the public and include public hearings around the country to consider all options on the table for healthcare security including extending federal employee insurance plans to the uninsured, tort reform, wellness incentives, salary plans for doctors, standardizing claim and billing procedures and reducing medical paperwork costs
- Reducing \$210 billion in unnecessary medical tests each year
- Developing economic incentives to reduce obesity and smoking
- Bounty rewards for whistleblowers to reduce over \$200 billion in medical fraud
- Creation of a medical court in Delaware to hear medical malpractices suits and medical fraud cases
- Until a Healthcare Security Plan is available for uninsured Americans, the President, Vice-President and Members of Congress should pay 100% of their federal employee health insurance premiums, effective March 1, 2010 as a matter of principle and to stand in solidarity with Americans who suffer the risks of no healthcare coverage everyday

In order to form a more perfect Union of the United States of America, we need healthcare security to ensure -

A United States of no pre-existing conditions restrictions

A United States of early detection screenings

A United States of preventive medicine and wellness programs

A United States of healthcare security for all Americans

Healthcare security is needed to reflect the will of the people, not the wheeling and dealing of insurance interests and political posturing that has left the solution

for healthcare at the scene of the accident with no emergency response en route. The option of doing nothing on healthcare legislation while our fellow Americans suffer and die without healthcare coverage is not the public option anyone can live with. America needs real results, right now on healthcare security so that the state of our Union's healthcare will be strong and affordable for all Americans.

Scott R. Spencer
Democratic Candidate for Congress
January 26, 2010