



## **Dr. Burgess' Prescriptions for Health Care Reform**

- ✓ **Access to Health Care**  
Eliminate the bias against patients with pre-existing conditions, outlaw rescissions except in cases of fraud, and ensure states have well-designed high-risk pools.
- ✓ **Doctors to Care for America's Patients**  
We must ensure that we have enough doctors to care for all of America's patients – now and in the future. The current formula Medicare uses to pay doctors – the SGR – is unstable, and a permanent fix is needed to ensure seniors continue to have access to their doctors.
- ✓ **Tax Fairness**  
Level the playing field for individuals and families by providing the same tax benefits regardless of where an individual or family wants to get their health insurance.
- ✓ **Medical Liability Reform**  
Combat one of the major drivers of health care costs by capping non-economic damages and limiting attorneys' fees. The successful results of Texas' 2003 reforms that introduced non-economic caps: Texas has licensed over 15,000 new physicians and Texas hospitals have delivered more than \$594 million in charity care.
- ✓ **Price Transparency**  
Health care services are the only product that we don't know the actual cost of before utilization, so let's have the prices up-front, just like in a restaurant or clothing store.
- ✓ **Competition and Patient Choice**  
Mandates have no place in a free society. Instead, we should challenge insurance companies to create innovative health plans that Americans want. We should enable people to be active decision-makers in their health care: maximizing the amount of pre-tax dollars individuals can deposit into health savings accounts and allowing individuals to purchase health insurance across state lines.