



GEORGE W. BUSH

September 22, 2000

Greetings to:

Congress of Neurological Surgeons

As you gather in San Antonio for your 50th Annual Meeting, I want to welcome you to Texas and extend my heartfelt for what you are doing to help Americans lead healthier, happier lives.

Doctors are among the most trusted professionals in our society, caring for us when we are most vulnerable and helping us to regain our health when we are sick.

If I am fortunate enough to be elected President, I will work to ensure a health care system that leaves medical decisions in the hands of physicians instead of insurance companies, that encourages research and innovation, and that offers more and better choices to consumers. I believe we must give consumers more reliable information about the quality of health care plans, and we need to give individuals more control and choice through innovative options like medical savings accounts. In addition, it is time to change our current tax laws so that more people, and particularly the uninsured and self-employed, can afford health insurance.

Medicare reform is another critical issue, and as President, I will modernize Medicare. I will push for reforms to help ensure that more Americans have access to quality, affordable health care. I will support giving patients in federally-governed health care plans protections similar to those already enacted in Texas, and will oppose legislation that would supercede good reforms already enacted by other states.

As health care providers, you are on the front lines every day, and if I win in November I will count on your experience and input as we make decisions to improve the well-being of millions of Americans.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George W. Bush".

George W. Bush