With nearly 44 million Americans uninsured, we are in the throes of a serious health care crisis. And even though Congress passed a far-reaching Medicare bill last year, we haven't come any closer to solving the fundamental problems.

Among the reforms is a new prescription drug discount card. Although they've been billed as the cure for rising drug prices, in most cases the cards don't even keep up with rapidly increasing costs. It is a confusing system that doesn't serve consumers, who sign up for a 12-month commitment, while the discount card provider can change the drugs covered and the prices of individual drugs on a weekly basis!

We will make prescription drugs more affordable only when we allow the reimportation of medicines from other industrialized nations, and when we allow the government to negotiate lower prices by pooling the purchasing power of Medicare recipients. But both of those provisions were left out of the Medicare prescription drug bill passed last year.

To be an effective voice for California's Sixth District, I need to hear regularly about what is most important to you. My website offers a great way for us to keep in touch about the issues.

Of course, communication is a two-way street. The website includes current information about what's going on in Congress. You may sign up to receive regular updates about Congressional actions that may affect you. Please visit **www.woolsey.house.gov** today!

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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