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Committee for National Health Insurance Program for 1981

1. Provide an action center for dissemination of information and organization of activities to advance health care measures, particularly those affecting consumers and patients.
2. Continue to press for comprehensive, cost effective, quality assured national health insurance; review, clarify and update the Health Care for All Americans Act.
3. Oppose various so called national health insurance proposals like Catastrophic health insurance and "consumer choice" plans which offer the appearance but not the substance of meaningful health care protection.
4. With the expert assistance of professional health care specialists recommend new measures to move forward toward assurance of comprehensive health care for all Americans. Provide resource information and evaluation to CNHI-HSAC Members and cooperating organizations on health care proposals which may be under consideration by the Congress and other bodies.
5. Support and help develop programs which will advance reorganization and improvement of the health delivery system.
6. Advocate meaningful cost containment and quality assurance programs and demonstrations.
7. Continue to press for the adoption of measures which will contribute to solving this basic problem underlying this country's chaotic health delivery system. These include no health insurance protection for some 27 million Americans and highly inadequate protection for at least 20 million more, shortages of health providers in most urban ghettos and rural areas, and personnel surpluses in other geographic areas, too few preventive health activities, particularly for children and for workers exposed to environmental hazards, an outmoded fee for service delivery system, many hospitals facing financial disaster, inadequate access for many to decent care, particularly for the poor and the ethnic minorities, and the aforementioned issues of protection of quality and control of runaway costs.

8. Develop and support measures to improve Medicare and Medicaid and seek out effective new ways of providing continuing care for the chronically ill elderly.
9. Study and report on alternative methods of financing health care services. Evaluate the effect of the increasing participation of private for profit entrepreneurs in what has been termed "the new medical-industrial complex."
10. Assure that the concept of "caring" is constantly considered as an integral part of all health delivery activities, public and private.

To advance these goals, the Committee will:

1. Develop and work with action coalitions of individuals and organizations
2. Provide expert information
3. Reinvigorate its state and local action Committees
4. Develop a speakers bureau from among its national committee members, its technical committee and others.
5. Consult with the Administration and testify before committees of the Congress.
6. Conduct a broad public information program.

The Committee intends to cooperate with the new administration and the Committees of the Congress in seeking better ways to address the very serious problems in America's health care system. These problems have been well identified by past Presidents of both major political parties. The times and the people require effective solutions.