

FINDINGS FROM THE 2005 ANNUAL SURVEY OF EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

DREW E. ALTMAN

Drew Altman is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. The Kaiser Family Foundation is a non-profit, private operating foundation. It develops and runs its own research and communications programs, often in partnership with outside organizations. The Foundation is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries. One of the nation's largest private foundations devoted to health, the Foundation is a trusted independent voice and source of research and information on health care in the United States. Since 1987, the Foundation has also operated a major program supporting efforts to develop a more equitable health system in South Africa. The Foundation is based in Menlo Park, California, and also operates major facilities in Washington, D.C., including its Barbara Jordan Conference Center and broadcast studio. In 1991, Dr. Altman came to the Foundation and directed a complete overhaul of its mission and operating style, leading to the Foundation's standing today as a leader in health policy and communications. Dr. Altman is a former Commissioner of the Department of Human Services for the state of New Jersey under Governor Tom Kean (1986-1989). Prior to joining the Foundation in 1990, Dr. Altman was director of the Health and Human Services program at the Pew Charitable Trusts. He was a vice president of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation from 1981 to 1986, and served in a senior position in the Health Care Financing Administration in the Carter administration. Dr. Altman received his BA from Brandeis University and Masters in political science from Brown University. He earned his Ph.D. in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, did his post-doctoral work at the Harvard School of Public Health, and taught graduate courses in public policy at MIT before moving on to public service. Dr. Altman is a member of the Institute of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is an innovator in the world of foundations and a leading expert on national health policy who publishes and speaks widely on health issues.

MARY PITTMAN

Mary Pittman, DrPH., is president of the Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET), an independent nonprofit organization that engages in research and education on critical health care service delivery issues. HRET is an affiliate of the American Hospital Association. Prior to assuming the leadership of HRET in 1993, she was president and CEO of the California Association of Public Hospitals (1990-93) and a director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health (1984-90). Dr. Pittman has been nationally recognized for her leadership in improving community health and access to vulnerable populations as well as patient-centered quality and safety. At HRET, she has spearheaded research initiatives as well as innovative knowledge transfer programs on a wide range of health care issues – from access and

coverage research to managing culture change in order to ensure safety and quality within hospitals, to enhanced community collaboration as well as the use and integration of new technologies in the delivery of care. With over 25 years in program planning and design, research, and health policy, Dr. Pittman's work has informed policymakers about the need to expand access and quality of health care to underserved populations. She has served as principal investigator on numerous research and demonstration grants including Patient Safety Leadership WalkRounds™, Hospital Capital Financing in the Era of Quality and Safety, National Community Care Network Demonstration, and Assessing and Reducing Medication Errors in Hospitals. She was co-chair of the Coalition for Healthier Cities and Communities and has co-authored two books, *AIDS: Principles, Practices and Politics*, and *Death, Dying, and Bereavement*. Dr. Pittman serves on the boards of a number of organizations, as well as on many national advisory committees. Dr. Pittman received her master's degrees from the University of California - Berkeley in Public Health and in City and Regional Planning, and a doctorate from UC-Berkeley in Public Health Administration.

GARY CLAXTON

Gary Claxton is a Vice President and the Director of the Health Care Marketplace Project at the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. The Project provides information, research, and analysis about trends in the health care market and about policy proposals that relate to health insurance reform and our changing health care system. Prior to joining the Foundation, Mr. Claxton worked as a senior researcher at the Institute for Health Care Research and Policy at Georgetown University, where his research focused on health insurance and health care financing. From March 1997 until January 2001, Mr. Claxton as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Policy at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where he advised the Secretary on health policy issues including: improving access to health insurance, Medicare reform, administration of Medicaid, financing of prescription drugs, expanding patient rights, and health care privacy. Other previous positions include serving as a consultant for the Lewin Group, a special deputy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, an insurance analyst for the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, and a health policy analyst for the American Association of Retired Persons.

JON GABEL

Jon Gabel is the Vice President of the Center for Studying Health System Change, a Washington-based research organization that aims to inform health care decision makers about changes in the health care system at both the local and national level. Mr. Gabel is known for his research on employment-based health benefits. From 1999-2005 Mr. Gabel was Vice president for Health Systems Studies at the Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET). He formerly was Director of the Center for Survey Research for KPMG Peat Marwick LLP. He has served as Director of Research for the American Association of Health Plans and the Health Insurance Association of America, industry trade associations representing HMOs and health insurance companies. Mr. Gabel is the author of more than 105 published articles in scholarly journals and has served on the editorial boards of a number of journals. He is a frequent speaker at business and professional meetings, is often quoted in the media and has appeared on many major national television news networks. He holds degrees in economics from the College of William and Mary and Arizona State University.

KATE SULLIVAN HARE

Kate Sullivan Hare joined the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in February 1999 and is the organization's Executive Director of Health Care Policy. The U.S. Chamber is the world's largest business federation, representing more than three million businesses of every size, sector, and region, and is the leading voice of business in Washington. In her capacity representing small and large businesses alike, Kate determines the Chamber's position and recommends courses of action with regard to legislative and regulatory proposals. She works with members of the U.S. Congress and key committee staff, as well as officials in the Administration, in formulating health care policy and legislation. Kate has testified in the U.S. Congress and works with the media to communicate the Chamber's views on health-related policy matters. She is frequently cited as an authority on employer-related health care issues and has appeared on all major broadcast and cable television networks as well as National Public Radio, and has been quoted in newspapers including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times* as well as numerous popular media and trade journals. Kate is the Chamber's lead contact responsible for forging alliances with other organizations on a wide range of health care topics and is a frequent speaker at trade conferences and educational forums. Prior to joining the Chamber, Kate was with a non-profit multi-provider health system in Chicago, where as Director of Government Programs she was responsible for finance and planning for the system's Medicare and Medicaid clientele. Kate has served twice in the U.S. Congress on the staffs of Republicans active on health care issues: as Senior Health Policy Advisor to U.S. Representative Nancy Johnson (Connecticut), who currently chairs the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health; and as Senior Legislative Assistant to former U.S. Representative Harris W. Fawell (Illinois). From 1991 to 1995, Kate was Illinois Governor Jim Edgar's (R) Washington Representative for health and welfare policy. Kate was also affiliated with the law firm of Reed, Smith, Shaw & McClay (1989-1991) where she represented numerous medical specialty providers and providers of both acute and long-term care health services. Kate earned her Master's of Health Services Administration from the George Washington University, where she concentrated her studies on finance and strategic planning. She received her undergraduate degree in American Government and English from Georgetown. She is an active volunteer with the Junior League of Washington and IONA Senior Services and is a member of Potomac Boat Club (Washington, D.C.), where she sculls and rows competitively on crews for the club. She and her husband Neil live in Washington, D.C., with their daughter.

GERRY SHEA

Gerry Shea is assistant to the president for Government Affairs at the AFL-CIO. Shea was named to his present position in 1995. He previously held various roles at the AFL-CIO including director of the Policy Office with responsibility for health care and pensions and then in several executive staff positions. Prior to joining the AFL-CIO in 1993, Shea spent 21 years with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) as an organizer and local union official in Massachusetts and later in the SEIU's national office. Shea serves as a public representative on the Board of Commissioners of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, where he chaired the Information Dissemination Strategic Issues Workgroup that developed the Joint Commission's Quality Reports. Shea is also a founding

board member of the Foundation for Accountability, chairs the RxHealthValue Project and is on the board of the National Quality Forum. He is a member of the Social Security Advisory Board. He had been a member of the predecessor Social Security Advisory Council from 1994 to 1996. He is a past member of the Medicare Prospective Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) and the Institute of Medicine's Quality in Health Care Committee's Subcommittee on the External Environment. Shea earned his bachelor's degree from Boston College in Massachusetts.