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## PRESS RELEASE

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# MICHAUD ENDORSES PRINCIPLES FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

The Maine People's Alliance applauded Second District Congressman Mike Michaud today for joining more than 190 members of congress and endorsing the principles of the Health Care for America Now campaign. Michaud emphasized his support for the creation of a strong public plan option to reduce costs and make health care coverage available to all Americans.

“I am pleased that Health Care for America Now is gaining support in Washington for a public insurance option in upcoming plans for health care reform,” said Rep. Michaud. “I am committed to a public insurance option that will provide an affordable alternative for those without insurance and those who don’t like their current insurance. It is my hope that we can pass a fiscally sound plan that leads to full coverage while at the same time improving the quality of health care for every American.”

First District Congresswoman Chellie Pingree has also signed on to the health care coalition’s principles. Senators Snowe and Collins have not, but Snowe expressed her openness to some form of public plan yesterday in an appearance on MSNBC.

Steven Willey, owner of Java Joe’s in Bangor and a member of the Maine Small Business Coalition, is grateful for Michaud’s commitment to the principles for health care reform.

“I’m very glad to have Congressman Michaud standing with us on health care,” said Willey. “I and other small business owners have called his office to let him know how important a public health care option is to us and our employees. It’s the only way of guaranteeing that costs will go down and everyone will be covered.”

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HCAN Principles: [http://healthcareforamericanow.org/site/content/statement\\_of\\_common\\_purpose](http://healthcareforamericanow.org/site/content/statement_of_common_purpose)