



## Writing Letters of Support to Legislators: Share why *you* support the Health Security Plan

Personalized letters have the most impact!

And actual letters are much more effective than emails.

1. Begin your letter by asking your legislator to *please vote YES on the 2021 Health Security Planning and Design bill, which will begin the process of designing the Health Security Plan.*

2. Briefly explain why **YOU** support the Health Security Plan.

Think about how the Health Security Plan would make things better for you, your family, or your friends, and include specifics.

For example, “Two years ago, my mother’s company switched insurers, and I had to stop seeing Dr. Chavez, the doctor I’d seen all my life, and go to a new one who didn’t know me. With the Health Security Plan, I would have been able to keep seeing my family doctor.” Such a personal comment has more impact than just “I want to be able to choose any doctor and not be limited to a network.”

3. You may want to point out that you are a constituent, as well as a senior citizen, a high school student, a business owner, a rancher, etc.

4. Make sure to include your name and address!

See the next page for some common reasons that people give for supporting the Health Security Plan.

Below are some reasons why you might support the Health Security Plan.

But before you write, try to think of other reasons that are personally important to you. Using your own story and your own words in your letter will have the greatest impact on your legislators!

- I want to be able to choose any doctor and not be limited to a network.
- If everyone has the same plan, the benefits will be easier to understand — no surprises in what's covered — and no one will have to change physicians because their plan changed.
- Right now, a serious family illness might mean that college is unaffordable.
- I want to be able to change jobs and not worry about losing health care benefits or having to change physicians.
- Covering almost all New Mexicans under one plan will lower administrative costs, leaving more money to pay for actual health care.
- I like the idea that the Health Security Plan premiums are based on income.
- I like that Health Security Plan premiums will go directly to the Plan and not to the insurance companies.
- I like the fact that the Health Security Plan would be run by a citizens' board whose meetings are open to the public — that includes me.
- Covid-19 has made me realize how much we depend on employers for health coverage. Losing your job is hard enough without losing your health care!

*For more information about the Health Security Plan,*

*visit [www.nmhealthsecurity.org](http://www.nmhealthsecurity.org).*