

D.C.Amarasinghe, M.D. FACIP

6204 North Military Highway
Norfolk VA 23518

E-mail: *Dr.DC2002@cox.net*

http://members.cox.net/~dr.dc2002/

Tel: 757-855-1900

Fax: 855-2272

09/28/02

Kenny Alexander.

7246 Granby St.

Norfolk VA 23505

Tel: 735-1368 Fax: 545-9148 E-mail kennycalexander@aol.com

Dear Kenny:

Please accept my warmest congratulations on your landslide victory as Delegate for the 89th district in Virginia. I want to take this opportunity to ask for your help in the legislation to help our fellow Americans who are the victims of the unfair health care system. My goal is the single payer Universal Health Care for all Americans. When I mention this some of my colleagues said that " You must be Dreaming" Just like Martin Luther King said " I have a Dream that one day all people will be treated equally " I still believe that the dream will come true one day, and all Americans will have health care.

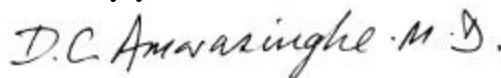
The legislation I want to propose is to help those victims of price gouging by the hospitals. My proposal is this. **" Any patient who is uninsured when treated in any hospital in Virginia will only be billed based on the lowest price the hospital accepts as full payment from Medicare or Medicaid or any other insurance which ever is the lowest."**

If this is passed I believe we could save majority of the bankruptcies that occur in Virginia.

Last year there were almost 1.5 million bankruptcies in the US and almost half of them were due to a health care related bill. The reason I believe that this bill will help many people is that most of the insurance companies including BC & BS do not pay even half of what is billed to these uninsured victims. This is why we could save so much money if we had universal health care for all. Please see the attached letter about the case of Judi Knotts who declared bankruptcy following just an infection of the thumb. Her total bill was \$8200.00 for a mere overnight stay and a simple drainage of an infection of her thumb. Can you imagine what it would cost if you had a serious illness.

Thank you, If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely yours,



D.C.Amarasinghe, M.D.

PS: Please send a copy of this letter to all the delegates and Senators in the general assembly.

D.C.Amarasinghe, M.D. FACIP

General & Vascular Surgery
6204 North Military Highway
Norfolk VA 23518

E-mail: Dr.DC2002@cox.net

<http://members.cox.net/~dr.dc2002/>

Tel: 757-855-1900



Judi A. Knotts

4815 Woolsey St.
Norfolk VA 23513

Tel: 858-5950

Judi's Thumb now 5-10-02

This is about one of my patients who declared Bankruptcy following an infection of her thumb. She was treated at Leigh Memorial Hospital in January 2002.

Judi A. Knotts also happened to be a Native American. She got an infection of her thumb from a minor injury and was seen in the ER at Leigh Memorial Hospital. She was given IV antibiotics and was kept overnight in the hospital the infected wound was drained and she was discharged.

Her total bill was as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Hospital Bill | \$ 6418.00 |
| Surgeon | \$ 1000.00 |
| Anesthesia | \$ 522.00 |
| Medications | \$ 150 |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>\$ 8180.00</u> |

She Declared Bankruptcy to avoid losing her Home. Now she has to pay \$ 1200.00 a month for the next 4 years and she will lose her car. This is the real tragedy of our health care system.

If she had health insurance the hospital would not get even half of what was billed. This is the reason why we need universal health care for all. Out of the 1.5 million Bankruptcies in 2001 almost 50% are due to a health care related bill. _____

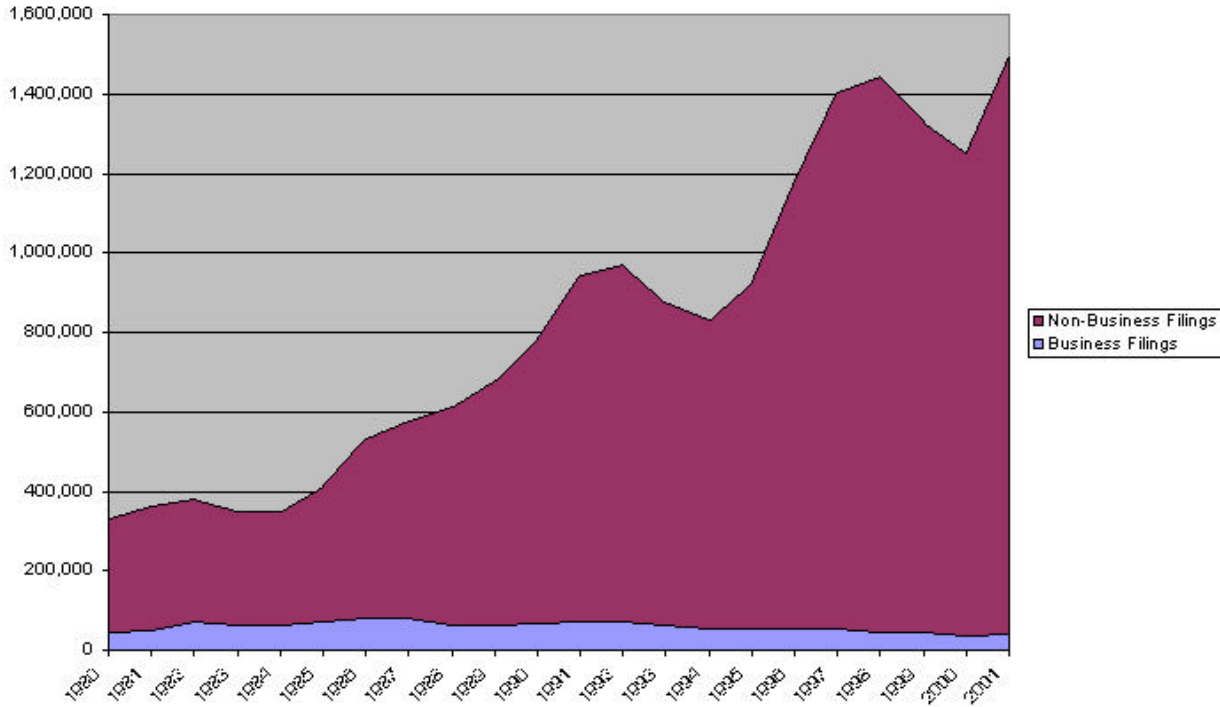
Thank you,

Sincerely yours

D.C. Amarasinghe M.D.

D.C.Amarasinghe,M.D.

U.S. Bankruptcy Filings 1980—2001



PS:

Kenny:

I tried to call the hospital billing dept. to get information. It is very difficult and almost impossible to get through. I think if you write to them and ask what Medicare Medicaid or even BC pays for the same procedures you can get a much better idea of the extent of the abuse of their billing. Or I could give this to an investigative reporter.

cc/ Liz Szabo
Jon Glass