



**Consumers for
AFFORDABLE
Health Care**

*Advocating the right to quality, affordable
health care for every man, woman and child*

News Release

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Jill Conover Joins Consumer Health Advocacy Group

(Augusta) Maine’s largest consumer health organization, Consumers for Affordable Health Care (CAHC), is pleased to announce that Jill Conover has joined our staff as a Health Policy Advocate.

With her background in health care and health reform policy both at the state house and in her other professional endeavors; the move was a perfect fit for both CAHC and Conover.

“I’m pleased to join an organization that has for so many years represented well the voice of consumers on an issue that’s vitally important to Maine families and businesses,” said Conover. “I look forward to continuing my work to achieve quality, affordable health care for all Maine people.”

As Health Policy Advocate, Conover will research, analyze, report and communicate on health and related policy matters from the state house and around Maine. She will also serve as a policy analyst to the Maine Center for Disease Control’s Cardiovascular Health Program, which CAHC staffs contractually.

CAHC Executive Director, Joe Ditré says adding Jill to the staff is happening just in time, “All of the studies we’ve seen show the skyrocketing health care costs and the dwindling economy are top concerns of Maine people. With Jill’s help we are hoping to bring good policies to the state house that will make health care more affordable and in turn help our economy. Having Jill on board is a critical piece to making sure the right changes happen to help all Mainers get quality coverage they can afford.”

Ms. Conover has more than 15 years of private, public, and nonprofit sector experience in public policy, advocacy, marketing, communications, public relations, strategic planning, research, publishing and fundraising. She is a former Representative in the Maine State Legislature where she served on the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services and was most

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recognized for her work on health care and environmental issues. She currently serves as Chair of the Public Policy Committee of the Board of Directors for HealthReach Community Health Centers, and served previously on the Legislative Committee of the Maine Public Health Association. Conover was lead sponsor of LD 431, the Dirigo self-administration bill, enacted into public law in 2007. She was appointed by the Maine Speaker of the House to serve on the National Conference of State Legislatures' Critical Health Area Project, and was named "2007 Legislator of the Year" by the Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers for her policy work focused on social and economic justice issues.

Ms. Conover's previous professional experience includes serving as Director of Communications for HealthReach Community Health Centers, Director of Publications for a Washington, D.C.-based national association and Senior Production Editor for the health care publisher, Aspen Publishers. She also held a staff position at the White House as a writer for the Clinton Administration.

Ms. Conover holds a B.A. degree from Hood College in Maryland, where her studies focused on history, political science and business administration. She is a native of central Maine and the proud Mom of a young son, Matthew.

Consumers for Affordable Health Care is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that has been helping Maine people get quality, affordable health care for more than 20 years.

If you have any public or private insurance questions please call our toll free HelpLine at 1-800-965-7476.

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For more information or to schedule interviews contact:

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"Health care should be a right not a privilege."