

From the Chair

Recently one of our Executive Board members, Eric Renz, made me aware of an internet site called "Health Affairs—At the Intersection of Health, Health Care & Policy"; you can view their website at www.healthaffairs.org. "Health Affairs" is the leading journal of health policy thought & research. It explores policy issues of current concern both domestically & internationally. The *Washington Post* states, "For more than 20 years, *Health Affairs* has been a must read for anyone with a serious interest in medicine, health care, and health care policy."

The specific article that Eric shared is entitled, "Presidents and Health Reform: From Franklin D. Roosevelt to Barack Obama" by James A. Morone. According to the abstract, the article "...explores the highly charged political landscape in which Obama maneuvered and the skills he brought to bear. It contrasts his accomplishments with the experience of his Oval Office predecessors. Going forward, implementation poses formidable challenges for Democrats, Republicans, and the political process itself."

Now you may be asking yourself, why am I taking the time this month in my "From the Chair" article to address this issue? As Democrats we need to be knowledgeable about the recent health care debate and its possible impact on the political races this fall. Many good elected Democrats stood with President Obama to get this Health Care bill passed. Now we need to stand with those same people to make sure they are re-elected to office.

I encourage you to take the time to read this article and to explore the website. I am going to have the article placed on our own website so that you can download & share it with others. As Democrats—be informed & get involved!

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