

The original documents are located in Box 39, “10/9/76 - Remarks Upon the Signing of H.R. 9019: Health Maintenance Organization (H.M.O.) Amendment of 1976” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

TALKING POINTS FOR H.R. 9019, HOUSE MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION
(H.M.O), AMENDMENT OF 1976, OCTOBER 5, 1976

I am signing into law today the Bill H.R. 9019, which extends the Health Maintenance Organization program for two years. This legislation also corrects deficiencies in the original bill which discouraged participation in the program.

I am personally concerned about the high cost and the quality of medical care for all Americans. The H.M.O. program has dealt effectively with these serious problems through its efficient use of medical personnel and its emphasis on disease prevention and good health maintenance.

This creative approach to health care demonstrates once again that a joint government and private effort can be highly successful. It can provide top quality services at reasonable costs to the American taxpayer.

Rather than adopt a costly, government-dominated national health care program, and add still another huge

bureaucracy to the Federal government, we must develop more cooperative initiatives to provide good, affordable medical care for every American.

This legislation is another important step in the right direction, and I am glad to sign it into law at this time.

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