



National
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**STATEMENT ON PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA’S HEALTH CARE REFORM
SPEECH TO THE JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS**

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President**

**National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (NAPH)
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Washington, D.C. – President Obama's heartfelt speech to Congress should energize our nation's essential effort to achieve meaningful health reform. NAPH's members are on the front lines in caring for the growing number of uninsured and underinsured. They also provide many community-wide safety-net services like trauma care.

America's safety net hospitals know that the failure to act now, when we are closer than ever to achieving reform, will jeopardize our entire health system and undermine the security and well-being of all Americans. They know, as the President eloquently and forcefully reminded us, that health reform will benefit everyone, not just the uninsured. NAPH strongly agrees with President Obama that the time has come for the Congress to recognize that health reform is not just another partisan political issue – it is a matter of national security, equity and fairness.