

Executive Alert Extra

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE NCPA

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Goodman Testimony to Senate Finance Subcommittee—Health Spending Is Out of Control

Health care spending in the U.S. is on a course to crowd out every other government program by mid-century, NCPA President John C. Goodman told the Senate Finance Committee's Subcommittee on Health Care.

"Clearly, we are on an impossible path," Goodman told the Senators. "And the longer we stay on it, the more painful it will be to get off of it. For the economy as a whole, health care will crowd out every other form of consumption, including food, clothing and housing."

Goodman testified that if benefits expand at the rate of the past 30 years and if the population ages the way demographers predict, government health care spending will equal one-third of gross domestic product by 2050, about equal to government spending for all purposes today.



Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT, left) greets NCPA President John C. Goodman prior to his testimony before the Subcommittee on Health Care. The text of Dr. Goodman's testimony is available at the NCPA's main Web site—www.ncpa.org.

Krauthammer, Morris and Hubbard Headline Chairman's Council Forum



Allan Hubbard (above), assistant to President Bush for economic policy, and presidential consultant Dick Morris (right) at the Fall Policy Forum in Washington, D.C.

Charles Krauthammer (right), Pulitzer Prize-winning syndicated columnist, addressed Chairman's Council members as guests of Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison at the U.S. Capitol.



Guest speakers at the Fall Policy Forum also included Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK), investigative journalist Richard Minter, and author Christopher Hitchens. See pages 2 and 3 for more about this year's Chairman's Council Forum.

Chairman's Council Forum Focuses on Mid-Terms, Iraq and Health Policies

Putlizer Prize-winning columnist Charles Krauthammer, U.S. Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK), Allan Hubbard, assistant to President Bush for economic policy, and presidential consultant Dick Morris were featured speakers at the NCPA Chairman's Council Fall Policy Forum in Washington, D.C. Kim Strassel, editorial board member of *The Wall Street Journal*, Richard Minter, inves-



Sen. Tom Coburn (above). Ruth Buchholz speaks with Richard Minter (below).



(Above) Chairman's Council Member Ned Carpenter with Cathy and Allan Hubbard (right), special assistant to President Bush for economic policy. (Below) NCPA Board Members Victor Lattimore (right) and Ray Wooldridge (left).



(Right) NCPA Advisory Board Member Sandy MacNeil visits with Christopher Hitchens at the closing luncheon atop the historic Hay-Adams Hotel overlooking the White House and Pennsylvania Avenue.



(Above) Elise and NCPA Board Chairman Pete du Pont with Charles Krauthammer (right).

tigative journalist, and author and public intellectual Christopher Hitchens also addressed the forum.

Krauthammer and Morris discussed how mid-term elections might change the make-up of Congress, and Hubbard lauded the NCPA's work, especially in health care, saying that the Bush administration relies on it frequently.

Sen. Coburn focused on the ailing U.S. health care system. "We've got a patient in ICU, it's the U.S. health care system," he said, "and the patient is dying."

Hitchens and Minter spoke about the need to continue the War on Terrorism.

Chairman's Council



(Left) Connie Harkins and NCPA Advisory Board Member Don Potts (left) and Board Member Jere Thompson (right). (Below, l-r) Dr. Gil Armiger, Joni Mona and NCPA Advisory Board Member Bob Berg.



Advisory Board Member Forrest Hoglund (above).

(Below) NCPA Advisory Board Member Derwood and Johanna Chase (left) and Ann and NCPA Board Member Ray Wooldridge (right) at the Krauthammer dinner in the U.S. Capitol.



(Right) NCPA Board Members Fred Meyer and Mike Baggett. (Below, left) Ingrid Gregg of the Earhart Foundation (right), Michael Grebe of the Bradley Foundation (left), and Michael Gleba of the Scaife Foundation.



(Below) NCPA Chairman's Council Member Ernie May (left) and Advisory Board Member Glenn Stinchcomb.



Topridge Retreat Focuses on NCPA Strategy



NCPA Advisory Board Member Virginia Manheimer (above), and Board Member Bob Wright (right, standing), Sara Sue Potts (center) and Board Member Don Buchholz.

NCPA Board Members gathered for a three-day planning retreat at Camp Topridge in the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York to develop policy and organizational strategies for the NCPA.



National Press Club Newsmaker Series Focuses on NCPA Book

A blue-ribbon panel, including Dee Dee Myers of MSNBC and Leslie Morgan Steiner, author of "Mommy Wars: Stay-at-Home and Career Moms Face Off on Their Choices, Their Lives, Their Families," discussed the NCPA's newest book, "Leaving Women Behind: Modern Families, Outdated Laws," at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. NCPA Board Chairman Pete du Pont (right) moderated the panel.



Former Clinton White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers (above, left) with Leslie Morgan Steiner.

Fukuyama, Balcerowicz Headline CEPA Conference

Francis Fukuyama (near right) and Leszek Balcerowicz (far right) were featured speakers at a Washington, D.C. conference, "Transatlantic Agenda: Challenges for the 21st Century." The conference was co-sponsored by Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and the Center for European Policy Analysis. Fukuyama, a professor at SAIS, and Balcerowicz, president of Poland's National Central Bank, addressed the transition to free markets, especially in Central Europe, and realistic approaches to U.S. foreign policy and transatlantic relations. CEPA is an affiliate of the NCPA.



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Pension Act Changes Charitable Donation Rules

Under the new Pension Protection Act of 2006, individuals can now make donations tax-free from traditional or Roth IRA accounts and avoid any penalty for early withdrawals. Gifts must meet several requirements, however:

1. The IRA owner must be at least 70-1/2 years old.
2. The donation must be limited to no more than \$100,000 per taxable year.
3. Distribution must be made directly from the trustee of the IRA to the organization.
4. The organization selected to receive the donation must be an organization described in section 170(b)(1)(A) of the Code.
5. The donation must be made in 2006 or 2007.

Gifts to fund gift annuities or charitable remainder trusts and gifts to private foundations, donor-advised funds or supporting organizations do not qualify under the new rules.

To learn more about the new Act and how it applies to you, please contact Jeanette Goodman or Sharyn Casey at (972) 386-6272.