

Executive Alert Extra

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE NCPA

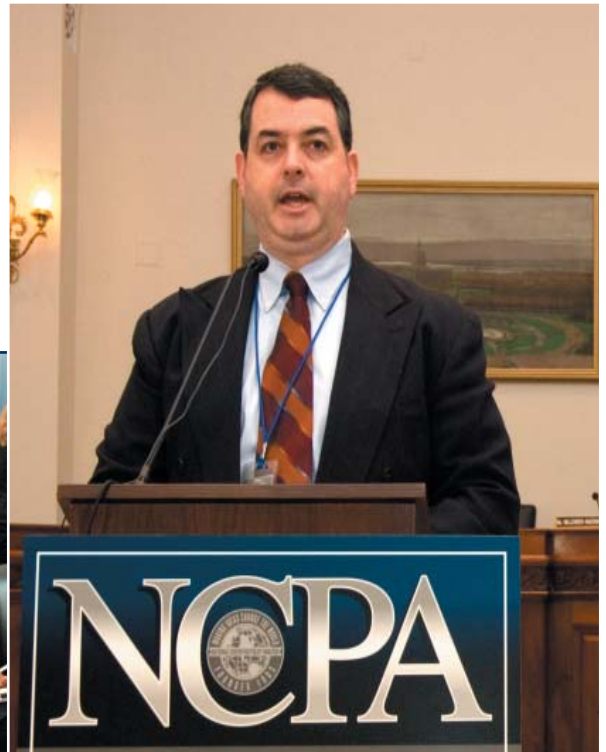
MARCH/APRIL 2006

White House Aide Headlines NCPA State of the Union Briefing

The morning after the State of the Union speech, Roy Ramthun, President Bush's health care adviser, told Capitol Hill staff and national media at an NCPA Capitol Hill briefing that the president is committed to expanding Health Savings Accounts and making them portable.

"Americans should be able to choose their health care based on individual needs and preferences, and easily obtain understandable information about the price and quality of the care they receive," Ramthun said.

The president's health care reform proposals closely mirror reforms the NCPA has been advocating for more than 20 years, including portability, assistance for the chronically ill and refundable tax credits for individuals.



Roy Ramthun (above) briefed Capitol Hill staff and national reporters, such as Marilyn Werber Serafini (at left) of National Journal.



Hitchens Electrifies First Sumners DLS Luncheon 2006

Christopher Hitchens, columnist and self-styled public intellectual, evoked cheers and a standing ovation from a capacity crowd for the first NCPA/Hatton W. Sumners Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series luncheon of 2006. Hitchens (left) documented why the U.S. should have invaded Iraq and outlined what must be done to promote democracy in the Middle East.

"The U.S. should be proud of its leadership in the war," Hitchens said. "Every species of gangster from the hero of the *Achille Lauro* hijacking to Abu Musab al Zarqawi found hospitality under Saddam's crumbling roof."

Hitchens reminded the crowd that Iraq had met all conditions under which any country can be deemed to have sacrificed its legal sovereignty—it invaded its neighbors, committed genocide on its own soil, and harbored and nurtured international thugs and killers.

Goodman Promotes Consumer-Driven Health Care in Media and at Conferences

NCPA President John C. Goodman promoted consumer-driven health care in national publications and at conferences and briefings across the country before and after President Bush's State of the Union address.

"If the reforms the president has proposed are enacted, he will leave a lasting and positive legacy for American social policy," Goodman said in a special op-ed for *National Review*. In another article, Goodman told *National Journal* that individuals who purchase health insurance should receive the same tax break as those who receive insurance from their employer.

Goodman debated David Himmelstein on the subject of "Our Health Care System at the Crossroads: Single-Payer or Market Reform," at the 42nd annual meeting of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons in Chicago.

In addition, Goodman was keynote speaker at the World Congress Annual Health and Human Capital Management Congress in Washington, D. C. The conference brought together innovative and knowledgeable industry experts and addressed the most pertinent issues relating to human capital management. Goodman told the CEOs and industry leaders at the conference that Health Savings Accounts will lower health care costs and improve access to quality health care. "Health Savings Accounts will empower consumers and allow doctors to treat patients rather than serve as agents of employers or insurance companies," Goodman told the group.



NCPA President John C. Goodman addressing the World Congress Annual Health and Human Capital Management Congress in Washington, D.C.

Herrick Leads NCPA Comment on State of the Union



NCPA experts led media coverage of the president's State of the Union address. Senior Fellow Devon Herrick (left) outlined the benefits of Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) on CNBC's *Morning Call* program and told *Forbes.com* that market-based health care reform lowers costs because it gives patients more control of their money.

NCPA President John C. Goodman appeared on several Fox News affiliates and wrote a special op-ed for the *New York Daily News*. Goodman noted that the president's proposed health care reforms include expanding HSAs and making them portable, reforms the NCPA has advocated for more than 20 years.

Goodman was also quoted in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *National Journal* and *CNN Money*.

Students Rally and March on Campus for Social Security Reform



Students at Arizona State University, University of Arizona, the University of Tennessee and the University of Central Oklahoma pass out flyers and carry banners advocating Social Security reform. The rallies took place the day before the President's State of the Union speech. Students rallied in support of investment-based Social Security reform; specifically, the adoption of personal retirement accounts.

Nationwide student rallies in support of Social Security reform were organized by the NCPA's Team NCPA educational initiative and were co-sponsored by Students for Saving Social Security and the College Republican National Committee, as well as other concerned student organizations. The students hope to keep Social Security reform at the top of Washington's public policy agenda.



Walker Promoted to Senior VP; Tuffnell, Jordan Receive Promotions Englert Joins E-Team

Richard W. Walker (far left) has been promoted to senior vice president of the NCPA. Richard now supervises the policy, communications and public affairs, online, and development and events departments. He joined the NCPA in 2000.

Sean Tuffnell (far right) has been promoted to director of communications. Sean was previously senior manager of communications and special projects. He also supervises Team NCPA, an educational initiative for investment-based reform of Social Security. He has worked in communications during his entire tenure at the NCPA in addition to managing special projects. Sean is a 7-year employee of the NCPA.

Laurel Jordan (center, right), formerly executive assistant to NCPA President John C. Goodman, has been promoted to associate director of development. Laurel is responsible for management of internal fundraising, donor relations and other donor-related activities. She also directs day-to-day operations of the development department. Laurel is a 3-year employee of the NCPA.

Dorene Englert (center, left) joins the NCPA as media relations coordinator. Dorene will support E-Team, the NCPA's energy and environmental marketing project, in addition to providing media relations and general communications support. Dorene is a graduate of the University of Indiana and is a new employee of the NCPA. She previously worked for the Indiana State Senate where she wrote news releases and speeches for a variety of public policy issues and acted as liaison between the Senate and media.



Personnel changes at the NCPA include (left to right) Senior Vice President Richard W. Walker, Media Coordinator Dorene Englert, Associate Director of Development Laurel Jordan and Director of Communications Sean Tuffnell. Jordan, Tuffnell and Walker are long-time NCPA employees. Englert is new to the NCPA.

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Editor.....Richard W. Walker
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Events Schedule

March 2 *Sumners Distinguished Lecture*
Walter Cronkite
Hilton Anatole Hotel
Chantilly Ballroom
Dallas, Texas
12 noon—1:30 p.m.

April 10 *NCPA Economic Policy Forum*
Andrei Illarionov
Former Economic Advisor to
Russian President Vladimir Putin
Belo Hall at Belo Mansion
Dallas, Texas
12 noon—1 p.m.



*Walter Cronkite
former CBS News
Anchor*