

MEDIA ADVISORY

TCF Fellow Maggie Mahar Can Offer Insight and Analysis on the Results of the Upcoming Vote on the Health Insurance Reform Bill

New York City, March 18, 2010—The U.S. Congress is poised to take a historic vote on health insurance reform in the coming days. What will the results of that vote—up or down—mean for health care delivery systems and the individual and families they serve? What happens next?

Maggie Mahar, a fellow at The Century Foundation and editor of the highly respected Health Beat Blog (www.healthbeatblog.org), can help sort out the answers to these critical questions. She has been an intelligent and informed voice in the current debate over health care reform. Through her blog, media interviews, and as a part of the Health Reform panel for the *Washington Post*, she has become known for her ability to cut through the political posturing and rhetoric and hone in on the important policy issues arising from this debate. Through her “Truth Squad” series, she also offers commentary on various efforts to spin or mislead the public about issues related to the reform effort.

Mahar is the author of *Money-Driven Medicine: The Real Reason Health Care Costs So Much* (Harper/Collins, 2006). This year, Academy-Award winning filmmaker Alex Gibney (*Taxi to the Dark Side*, *Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room*) turned her book into a documentary. *Money-Driven Medicine* is now available on DVD at www.moneydrivenmedicine.org. Bill Moyers, who recently aired an abridged version of the film on his PBS show, calls it “one of the strongest documentaries that I have seen in years. . . . The more people who see and talk about it, the more likely we are to get true and serious health reform.” A segment of the film also was featured on *Nightline*.

Health Beat (www.healthbeatblog.com) is widely read and has been recommended in a number of national print and online publications, including the *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times*. Mahar’s work has appeared in publications ranging from *Reader’s Digest* to *Dartmouth Medicine*, to the *Washington Post*, and her posts have appeared on various websites, including Alternet.org, Politico.com’s Arena, [TPM Café](http://TPM Cafe), The Health Care Blog, Truthout.org, and the New America Foundation’s “New Health Dialogue.” She also has been quoted in TheEconomist.com and the *PBS NewsHour Rundown* about the prospects for passage of the health care reform legislation.

Before coming to The Century Foundation, Mahar was a financial journalist. She has written for *Institutional Investor*, the *New York Times*, Bloomberg News, and *Barron’s*, where she served first as senior writer and then as senior editor. An earlier book, *Bull! A History of the Boom, 1982–1999* (Harper/Collins, 2003), was recommended by Warren Buffet in Berkshire Hathaways’ annual report.

Maggie Mahar is available for interviews and backgrounders on the vote in Congress and on health care reform. To schedule an interview, contact Christy Hicks at (212) 452-7723 or hicks@tcf.org. She can also be reached by cell phone at 917-533-0175 or at maggiemahar@yahoo.com.

The Century Foundation conducts public policy research and analyses of economic, social, and foreign policy issues, including inequality, retirement security, election reform, media studies, homeland security, and international affairs. The foundation produces books, reports, and other publications, convenes task forces and working groups, and operates seven informational Web sites. With offices in New York City and Washington, D.C., The Century Foundation is nonprofit and nonpartisan and was founded in 1919 by Edward A. Filene.