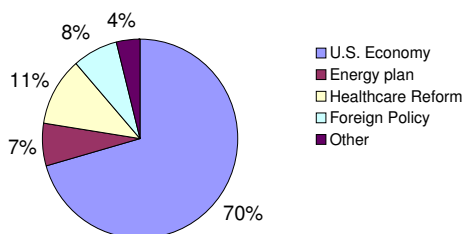


Advice to New President

Even before the November 4 election and as the U.S. economy began a precipitous tailspin, political pundits began speculating about what issues the new president should address in the early days of his presidency—if not sooner. During that time LocumTenens.com decided to find out what issues were on the minds of America’s physicians. In October 2008 we received 1,457 responses to a two-question survey regarding the top issue area he should address in his first year in office (multiple-choice) and their advice to the new president (open-ended).

The President must address in his first year in office...



Considering our timing, it’s no surprise that among 203 psychiatrists responding to the LocumTenens.com survey, close to three fourths (70%) indicated the U.S. economy was the most pressing year-one issue. However, it’s interesting to note that physicians are not that different from many other Americans who were concerned about many issues beyond their own careers and industries as the 2008 election neared. Highlights of their open-ended comments follow.

What advice would you offer to the president regarding his first 100 days in office?

“Lots of phone therapy with me. First ten hours pro bono.”
 – Psychiatrist, Florida

U.S. Economy

“Devise a regulatory plan for financial institutions and appoint an oversight committee with a publicly known chain of command and instate clear and specific guidelines.” – *Psychiatrist, Minnesota*

“Create task groups of laypersons, such as experts in their respective fields from politicians to professors and those currently ‘walking the walk’ such as doctors of various fields for healthcare, energy engineers from various aspects (oil, solar, cars, etc.), economy experts (down to the CPA for economic reform), and scientists who have worked on global warming. Set a 90-day limit to have each task force to come up with a step-by-step implementation plan.”
 – *Psychiatrist, Connecticut*

“Create an infrastructure repair and improvement program, along the lines of the Work Projects Administration (WPA) in the 1930s, but updated to include current scientific and international realities; short-term more jobs, longer term revitalized economy. This should also include REAL healthcare and education reform, as this is a part of the overall infrastructure, economy and citizen well-being. Infrastructure and jobs first, with concurrent transitioning of competent healthcare and competent education (will obviously take longer to do) for ALL.”
 – *Psychiatrist, Arkansas*

Energy

“Initiate work on nuclear reactors, offshore drilling, Alaska’s energy resources, clean coal, solar and wind, etc.”
 – *Psychiatrist, USA*

“Start public infrastructure projects, such as light and high speed rail systems and government-sponsored competitions for solar and battery technology projects.” – *Psychiatrist, Georgia*

What advice would you offer to the president regarding his first 100 days in office? *Continued*

Healthcare Reform

“Pay attention to the mental health parity that was included in the \$850 billion dollar Wall Street buy-out.”
– *Psychiatrist, New York*

“Give Medicare the same deal as the VA has with the pharmaceutical industry.”
– *Psychiatrist, USA*

“Reign in managed care. Make health care universally affordable. Create a government-sponsored, nationwide chain of primary care clinics and hospitals that accepts everybody who has government health insurance and apply sliding-scale fees. Halt Medicare Part B and start negotiating prices of medications as the VA does and close the 'doughnut loophole.' Make medical fraud a federal offense. Regulate the prices of medications that go into the market.”
– *Psychiatrist, New York*

U.S Foreign Policy

“Set a time line to get troops out of Iraq. Get more help from neighbors of Iraq/Afghanistan in rebuilding these countries. Start talking to Iran. Meet with G8 leaders and have an objective plan to work toward alternative energy sources to stop using oil which would help the climate as well.” – *Psychiatrist, California*

“Begin to cooperate with other nations so that we may reduce our military budget and have money to fund important domestic priorities.”
– *Psychiatrist, Texas*

*“Focus on thinking carefully, building a special team of wise and moral counselors. Communicate your thoughts to the American people and listen to them rather than to special interests.
Be restrained in your actions and initiatives.”*
– *Psychiatrist, Ohio*



LocumTenens.com
2655 Northwinds Parkway
Alpharetta, GA 30009
Phone 1.800 locum md (562.8663)
Fax 770.643.5719