

Sample Call Script:

“Hello Senator _____,

I am calling to ask for your support in regards to a public health care option. A public option is especially important for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. For example, in 2008 25% of LGBT youth were uninsured nationally. A 2009 study performed in New York City found that 20% of gay and lesbian people and 23.5% of bisexual people had no insurance. This public option is extremely important because our community has unique health care needs. Further, many LGBT Americans have jobs that do not qualify for insurance and it is even more vital that they are able to take advantage of a public option. I am counting on you, as our senator, to push for a public option so that all LGBT Americans have affordable and accessible health care. Can I count on your support?”

If yes, “Thank you for your time and support.”

If no, “Thank you for your time and consideration.”

You can add the following talking points to your call:

1. “The public option is the best thing for our communities—it would give us the most access we’ve ever had. Its availability will allow everyone the possibility for healthcare and it will put restraints on the insurance companies who control our healthcare now with strict limitations and increasingly high costs.
2. A public option is like the publicly funded program of Medicare. In fact, a simple plan would be to expand Medicare to be a public option for all in this country. Its design and management have been well tested over time.
3. How can we pay for this public option? Its cost can be taken from the war budgets for Iraq and Afghanistan which have spent \$890 billion thus far. Also, we know that healthcare reform is going to cost, but we may lose Medicare and Social Security in the future if we don’t institute a plan to control costs now, and ensure more healthy people in the future.