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National Press Club
Press Club Building
Washington, D.C.
20045

Dear Sirs:

Millions of Americans are increasingly angry and cynical about the veracity of our elected leaders. I wish to thank you for having Mr. Keating's speech covered by C-Span. Clearly, he is a good spokesman for his own cause and only the legal process will show whether he can be trusted.

I tend to believe Mr. Keating until proven otherwise. The ability of the Congress to change the rules of the game while it is being played is beyond comprehension.

From my years as a farm kid in Minnesota and now on sabbatical following many years of medical practice, I have seen two major sectors of our economy (namely agriculture and health care) almost destroyed by the machinations of Congress.

For the last 30 years we have seen Congress buying its re-election by interfering in the marketplace. We now have a structure of bureaucracy which acts like a cancer of the body politic.

It is now amazing to see Congress debating whether members of the bureaucracy should be allowed to be active in the political process. Even a medical student is aware that cancer therapy does not involve increasing the very factors which caused the disease.
How absurd to let more foxes into the chicken coop!

I would urge the press to increasingly look at the long-term ramifications, not just the short-term political effects, of a proposed action or regulation. My own guess is that Mr. Keating and many others are to a large part victims of the process where players in the game are assumed to be guilty even when abiding by the rules in place at the start of the game.

Please use the great press freedom to search out and publicize the adverse effect of actions taken even many years ago. I was in medical school at the time Medicare was introduced with great fanfare. It is uncanny how close the current sad state of affairs is to what health care leaders predicted in the mid 60's.

Hopefully,

cc: C-Spsn
White House and Congressional delegation