To whom it may concern;

We were asked to write you a letter to tell you a little about our life and how the loss of our medical insurance would affect us. My husband and I have been married for 44 years. I have been a hairdresser for 42 years and my husband Glen worked as a coal miner for 25 years. He was 21 when he went to work for Peabody Eagle 2, local 1602, in Shawneetown, IL. He was so proud to work for Peabody, and was making good money and had good insurance. We had three sons. We didn't have to use our insurance a lot, but it was nice when we needed it. It was a good company at the time. He knew that he wouldn't make much on retirement, \$700 a month. But he also knew that the medical insurance would mean a lot more than the money as we got older.

Now at 62 and 64 our medical and prescription insurance means so much to us. My husband has had two heart attacks. He has one stint, and a 100% blockage that the doctor wouldn't touch. Because of this it would be very hard for us to afford private insurance. That is why we are so thankful for the insurance we have. I will not get on Medicare for two and a half more years.

I am very scared that we will drain our savings to pay for expensive insurance. We all have to have insurance. For example, I have been blessed with good health all of my life until three years ago. I developed a perforated bowel and had emergency surgery. I had a temporary colostomy, and then three months later another major surgery to have it reversed. Can you imagine how much that would have cost us? I am so thankful that we had our insurance. Losing it could be catastrophic to so many of our family, friends and all the people who worked hard for their insurance and for Peabody.

It's a shame when big companies like Peabody forgetswho made them who they are today, and that honoring their word, and commitment to their people mean nothing. I hope that these companies cannot break their contract with these coal miners. I ask and pray for your support in helping us keep our insurance.

Thank you,

Kay and Glen Bridewell

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