America’s political leaders have a unique opportunity. A chance to step back and get it right when it comes to health care. And that’s good news. Good news for the men and women who work in America’s public schools.

And very good news for the millions of children who come to school every day without any health insurance at all. The children who never see a doctor or a dentist, or the children who rely on the emergency room as their only access to medical services.

There’s been enough talk about who’s to blame, about who’s up, and who’s down in the health care debate. The White House summit on health care should not be about keeping score or creating headlines.

It’s much more important than that—it’s a second chance to get it right. This is a make-up test. And the right answer is to set aside politics and do what’s right for millions of uninsured children.


Paid for by the 3.2 million members of the National Education Association. Great public schools are a basic right for every student.