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**MOMENTUM CONTINUES TO BUILD  
FOR BI-PARTISAN LEGAL REFORM SOLUTIONS**

**FORMER U.S. SENATORS HOWARD BAKER AND BILL BRADLEY  
JOIN ADVISORY BOARD OF COMMON GOOD**

New York, NY – June 14, 2005 – At a time of polarized national debate on many fronts and especially on issues of legal reform, bi-partisan momentum is building behind proposals advanced by Common Good to restore reliability to American law. Common Good has proposed to create, for example, special health courts that would be reliable for patients and doctors alike. In the latest evidence of bi-partisan support for Common Good, former U.S. Senators Howard Baker and Bill Bradley – two of the most widely respected statesmen in the nation – have joined its Advisory Board.

Howard Baker, a Republican, represented Tennessee in the U.S. Senate from 1967 to 1985; he served as Minority Leader of the Senate from 1977 to 1981 and as Majority Leader from 1981 to 1985. He was President Ronald Reagan's Chief of Staff in 1987 and 1988 and until recently was the U.S. Ambassador to Japan.

Bill Bradley, a Democrat, represented New Jersey in the U.S. Senate from 1978 to 1997. He ran for the Democratic nomination for President in 2000.

They join an Advisory Board which boasts a bi-partisan group of leading American public policy thinkers, including Tom Kean, Griffin Bell, Newt Gingrich, George McGovern, and a number of leading scholars who have found common ground in the efforts of Common Good.

Bi-partisan support is growing rapidly for the creation of special health courts. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist has expressed support for the idea, and Senate Health Committee Chair Michael Enzi plans to introduce legislation to fund pilot projects to test the concept. The Progressive Policy Institute – a Democratic think tank known in the 1990s as President Clinton's "idea mill" – has formally endorsed it. Last week, PPI held a Congressional briefing on the idea, at which AARP, one of the nation's most important consumer groups, supported the creation of pilot projects.

The concept of health courts was previously endorsed by a bi-partisan group of more than 80 of the nation's most prominent leaders in health care and law. That group included, among others, four other former U.S. Senators, two former Governors, a former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, a former U.S. Attorney General, a former Deputy U.S. Attorney General, and a former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Later this month, on June 27 and 28 in Philadelphia, Common Good will be bringing together a group of legal experts, including judges and former federal government officials of both political parties, for a conference on the role of civil justice in a free society and the need to restore reliability in civil justice, so that it does not skew daily choices.

“Many of our nation's leaders understand that our erratic legal system is undermining our common institutions,” said Philip K. Howard, Chair of Common Good. “Common Good is attracting bi-partisan support by focusing on structural changes to the legal system that are designed to protect reasonable choices.”

Additional information on Common Good, special health courts, and other Common Good initiatives, is available at [www.cgood.org](http://www.cgood.org). For further information, please call Allison Aldrich at 212-576-2700 x241 or [aaldrich@goodmanmedia.com](mailto:aaldrich@goodmanmedia.com).

*Common Good is a bi-partisan legal reform coalition dedicated to restoring common sense to American law. Its board is composed of leaders in a wide range of fields: former government officials, including Griffin Bell, Newt Gingrich, Eric Holder, George McGovern, Diane Ravitch, Alan Simpson, and Richard Thornburgh; current and former university presidents, including Gov. Thomas Kean, George Rupp, and John Silber, and numerous other leaders in education, health care, law, business and public policy. The Chair of Common Good is Philip K. Howard, a lawyer and author of The Death of Common Sense and The Collapse of the Common Good.*