



Richard J. Umbdenstock
President and
Chief Executive Officer

Liberty Place, Suite 700
325 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004-2802
(202) 626-2363 Phone
www.aha.org

March 5, 2009

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Dear Senator Baucus:

I am writing to commend the nomination of Governor Kathleen Sebelius as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and to urge swift action on her confirmation.

Governor Sebelius will bring a wealth of experience to the Office of the Secretary. As our members and colleagues in Kansas will attest, she has a broad yet deep knowledge of the array of health care challenges facing our nation. She has dealt firmly and ably with issues such as health insurance coverage, access to care, and the need to expand and standardize the use of health care information technology.

The new Secretary will have to manage a vast department, implement key provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and provide leadership in the journey toward national health care reform. Governor Sebelius is a proven leader whom we are confident will handle all these tasks ably.

We applaud the nomination of Governor Sebelius and look forward to working further with you and her on these many key issues.

Sincerely,

Rich Umbdenstock
President and CEO

