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March 20, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

On behalf of the 5,000 members of the American Hospital Association (AHA), I am writing to express our support for passage of the *Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act* (H.R. 3590), and the accompanying changes in the reconciliation bill associated with that measure.

As hospitals, our goal is to ensure universal coverage for health care services. Like you, we believe that goal is achievable, and this legislation moves the nation closer to that goal. We also appreciate the important provisions contained in the legislation that will provide caregivers with important tools to improve the quality and delivery of patient services.

As you know, hospitals have provided leadership in this effort by making a meaningful contribution toward helping to achieve savings as our part of the shared responsibility to expand coverage. The impact of these reductions, and other policies contained in the legislation, must be closely monitored to ensure that hospitals are able to continue providing access to high-quality services that are essential to the patients we serve and the communities that depend on us every single hour of every single day. As we lay this historic foundation for improving the health care system, we also look forward to working with you in making the necessary refinements that will be inevitable given the scope of any reform of this magnitude.

We applaud your strong leadership and your steadfast commitment to providing health care coverage for so many Americans in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rich Umbdenstock'.

Rich Umbdenstock
President and CEO

