

June 24, 2009

Honorable Edward M.. Kennedy
Chairman
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
United States Senate

Honorable Michael B. Enzi
Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
United States Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Enzi:

We are writing to express our support for strong and effective anti-fraud provisions in the health care reform legislation. Our organizations represent a broad cross section of insurers, employers, consumer groups, and law enforcement agencies actively engaged in the detection, prevention and prosecution of insurance fraud.

Based on CMS data and FBI estimates, healthcare insurance fraud is at least \$68 billion, annually, and may be as much as \$226 billion. This extraordinary diversion of scarce health care dollars not only undermines the credibility of our healthcare system, it often finances organized crime, as well. It is critical, therefore, that the healthcare reform legislation not become a springboard for even more healthcare fraud. Indeed, we would hope that the legislation would include mechanisms and resources that will help rollback that fraud.

In this connection, we believe that Title V, "Preventing Fraud and Abuse," of the "Affordable Health Choices Act" includes important new provisions to improve the fight against healthcare fraud. It establishes new positions in both the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice to focus exclusively on coordinating the fight against healthcare fraud. It also establishes the Healthcare Program Integrity Coordinating Council to better focus and organize a broad attack on healthcare fraud throughout the government, including the development of a strategic plan and antifraud databases. This data sharing is particularly critical to detecting patterns of fraudulent behavior and effectively prosecuting those who carry it out.

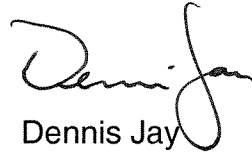
As the legislation continues to be developed in the Senate, we would hope to continue to work with the Committee to further strengthen Title V, building on

the important language that the bill currently includes. Title V has numerous other provisions which are beyond the scope of this letter.

Sincerely,



Joseph H. Wehrle Jr.
President & CEO
National Insurance Crime Bureau



Dennis Jay
Executive Director
Coalition Against Insurance Fraud



Louis Sacoccio
Executive Director
National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association