



Charles N. Kahn III
President

January 13, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Reid:

The Federation of American Hospitals (FAH) and our nearly 1000 investor-owned or managed community hospitals and health systems applauds the Congress for its hard work crafting comprehensive health reform legislation. As you complete final action on this critical measure, the FAH encourages Congress to provide sufficient funding necessary for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and other pertinent departments and agencies, to implement this historic legislation.

Health reform implementation at the Federal government level will be unlike any other health legislation in recent history and will place unprecedented demands on the administrative infrastructure. Executing this legislation will require a significant investment in staff, will take many years, and involve considerable rulemaking and sustained departmental direction and oversight. In our view, arming HHS and other departments and agencies with adequate funding to move swiftly and effectively is critical to the success in carrying out Congressional intent.

Again, the FAH commends and thanks you for your strong and steady leadership in advancing health reform.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Kahn", written over a horizontal line.

cc:
Chairman Rangel
Chairman Waxman
Chairman Stark
Chairman Pallone
Chairman Baucus
Chairman Harkin