



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PRESIDENT BUSH'S EXECUTIVE ORDER IS
AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD**

The following statement was released today by Chip Kahn, President of the Federation of American Hospitals:

Today, in signing an Executive Order, President Bush brings together all of the groundwork undertaken over the last few years regarding standardized quality measurement and reporting, as well as health information technology advancement. As a founding member of the Hospital Quality Alliance, we welcome the Administration's leadership regarding health care quality standards, and as the hospital representative to Secretary Leavitt's American Health Information Community, we appreciate and share the President's commitment to the development and expanded use of health information technology.

The Executive Order is an important step forward in advancing these initiatives and achieving value-based information for consumers and patients. It also will provide hospitals and physicians with important benchmarks that they can use to improve health care services. We hope that it will lead to greater standardization in reporting quality measures and spur the development of important health information technology. We also look forward to working with the Administration and Congress to achieve these worthy and necessary goals.

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The Federation of American Hospitals is the national representative of investor-owned or managed hospitals and health systems. Our members include general community and teaching hospitals in urban and rural areas as well as rehabilitation, long-term acute care, cancer, and psychiatric hospitals.