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FAH COMMENDS HOUSE PASSAGE OF HEALTH REFORM

The following statement was released today by Chip Kahn, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federation of American Hospitals.

House passage of health reform legislation marks a pivotal point toward bringing about a health care system with meaningful coverage for almost all Americans – an essential component for achieving effective and durable reform. We also are pleased that the bill moves in the right direction toward a market-based health care system.

Today's historic vote moves us closer to the day when Americans can achieve true health security, knowing that they will have the coverage and care that they need when they need it. We commend Speaker Pelosi, the Democratic leadership and the Committee Chairmen for their leadership in advancing this important cause. We also look forward to endorsing health reform legislation that further embraces market-based principles and contains additional improvements as the process moves forward.

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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, cancer and psychiatric hospitals.