



AMERICAN ACADEMY of ACTUARIES

March 24, 2010

Re: Enactment of Comprehensive Health Reform

Dear Representative/Senator:

Now that President Obama has signed into law the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act*, thereby enacting comprehensive health reform, attention must now turn to successfully implementing it and forthcoming reconciliation legislation. This will require a coordinated effort to ensure the regulatory development process accomplishes the intended goals of the reform including: increasing access to affordable health insurance coverage, enhancing the quality of care, and addressing health spending growth.

The American Academy of Actuaries'¹ Health Practice Council shares these goals and pledges to work with regulatory authorities as they begin the implementation process, and to the extent possible, improve upon the framework as laid out in the new law. Actuarial expertise will be essential in the development of new regulations if the insurance market is to successfully implement health care reform. Many of the details regarding implementation will need to be worked out at both the federal and state levels, and actuaries are committed to working with federal and state regulators throughout the implementation process.

We have appreciated being a resource to you during the legislative process and welcome the opportunity to serve as an ongoing resource during the implementation process. If you have any questions please contact Heather Jerbi, the Academy's senior health policy analyst (202.785.7869; Jerbi@actuary.org).

Sincerely,

Alfred A. Bingham, Jr., MAAA, FSA, FCA
Vice President, Health Practice Council
American Academy of Actuaries

¹ The American Academy of Actuaries is a 16,000-member professional association whose mission is to serve the public on behalf of the U.S. actuarial profession. The Academy assists public policymakers on all levels by providing leadership, objective expertise, and actuarial advice on risk and financial security issues. The Academy also sets qualification, practice, and professionalism standards for actuaries in the United States.