

American Chiropractic Association

March 6, 2006

The Honorable Michael B. Enzi
Chairman
The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: *S. 1955 Health Insurance Marketplace Modernization Act*

On behalf of the American Chiropractic Association and the many doctors of chiropractic and chiropractic patients we represent, I am writing to express our concerns regarding the pending mark-up of S. 1955, the Health Insurance Marketplace Modernization and Affordability Act.

We know that your interest in advancing S.1955 -- *or an updated version of it* -- is based on your strong desire to try and create a situation that would help make health insurance more affordable to small businesses and associations, a worthy goal considering the continued growing cost of providing adequate health care coverage. While we applaud your desire to address this serious problem, we have grave reservations regarding how S.1955, or a proposal based substantially on it, would impact access to and coverage of services provided by doctors of chiropractic.

In our view, the federal preemption of pro-competitive state enacted protections would harm the constituency we represent and would have the effect of limiting access to needed and cost-effective chiropractic care. Without the incorporation of modifying legislative language that would specifically address the concerns of our Association we would be unable to support the advancement of your initiative nor any other legislative package that would have a similar negative impact on our constituency.

We respectfully request that you work with the American Chiropractic Association to address our concerns and that you incorporate into S.1955, or any succeeding vehicle, an appropriate provision that satisfactorily addresses our concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and we look forward to a continued positive dialog with you and your staff regarding this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Falardeau". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

John A. Falardeau
Vice President, Government Relations

Cc: Members, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions