

American
Chiropractic
Association

March 23, 2006

The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-2803

Dear Senator Reid:

On behalf of the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) and the many doctors of chiropractic and chiropractic patients we represent, I am writing to express our deep concerns regarding S. 1955, the Health Insurance Marketplace Modernization and Affordability (HIMMA) Act.

ACA shares your interest in making health insurance more affordable for small businesses and associations, in fact for all Americans. This is a worthy goal. However, while we applaud the Senate's desire to address this serious problem, we have grave reservations regarding how S.1955 would adversely impact the consumer protection efforts enacted by the varoius states, as well as access to and coverage of services provided by doctors of chiropractic and other specialty health care providers.

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 much needed and cost-effective chiropractic care. Therefore, the ACA is strongly opposed to the advancement of S. 1955 or any other legislative package that would have a similar negative impact on our members and their patients.

We strongly encourage you to oppose S. 1955. There is no evidence that this bill will lead to more affordable coverage or will increase the number of Americans with adequate health insurance. As we have found through analysis of the federal Association Health Plan (AHP) legislation, proposals such as S. 1955, which purport to provide more affordable and expanded coverage often fail to accomplish this goal, and may even make existing access and cost problems worse.

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

Respectfully,



Kevin Corcoran
Executive Vice President