

Dear Dr. Clemente:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding S. 1955 Health Insurance Marketplace Modernization Act. I appreciate hearing from you.

As Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, it is essential that I remain fully informed in all areas of health care policy. During the 109th Congress, we will continue to debate various health issues, such as the complex question of managed health care and the Federal role in its regulation and historic reforms to the Medicare program, including the development of a prescription drug benefit for seniors. Among my top legislative priorities this Congress is the continued fight for necessary increases in funding for all aspects of biomedical research within the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control, and ensuring the appropriate examination and refinement of the vital public health programs administered by the Federal government.

Again, I appreciate your taking the time to bring your views on S. 1955 Health Insurance Marketplace Modernization Act to my attention. Your input is vital as I continue to press for targeted health care reform and urge Congressional leadership to make this reform a top priority. If you have any further questions on this issue or any related matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or visit my website, at <http://specter.senate.gov>.

Sincerely,

Arlen Specter