



ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH,
EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

January 23, 2006

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The Honorable Mike Leavitt
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave, SW Room 615F
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Leavitt:

I write today to thank you for your efforts to reduce the amount of superfluous information in prescription drug packages. This very simple reform will boost health literacy and ensure that more patients will actually take their medications in the prescribed fashion.

The Alliance for Health, Education, and Development (AHEAD) was established with the primary goal of educating members of underserved communities about their full range of choices and options in the areas of health, education, and economic development.

In 2005 AHEAD hosted two senior health fairs, one in Oakland, CA and one in Charlotte, NC, in addition to doing out reach to hundreds of pastors with the goal of educating seniors about the new Medicare prescription drug plan.

While our general counsel concurs with the opinion of your office regarding the issue of state law suits, that is not our primary concern or the purpose of this letter. Something needed to be done to alleviate the confusing medical information and curtail the pages of information that intimidates some people with the net consequence that their medicine is not properly, or taken at all.

If I can be of any assistance to you or your office in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me at (703) 867-1151. Thank you for a job well done, and all my best,

Regards,

Council Nedd II
Executive Director

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