



Colorado Chapter

January 25, 2006

The Honorable Mike Leavitt, Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Hubert Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 615F
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Leavitt:

We are in strong support of the recent decision by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) that revises the prescribed format and content of prescription drug labels. As organizational leaders, we want to provide the necessary balance on this issue to combat others who fail to understand the tremendous benefits associated with this decision.

The National Association of Hispanic Nurses – Colorado Chapter strongly supports this new rule on physician labeling as a strong patient safeguard. Clearly, the FDA has carefully balanced all the interests at stake, the need for increased and simpler disclosure and the overwhelming benefits that followed, against the ability of trial lawyers to go to court if any information was omitted. The FDA opted in favor of better disclosure to boost health literacy, ensure that more patients actually take their medication, help prevent harmful drug interactions, and drive down health care costs. These are laudable goals that we commend.

In short, we offer our support and thanks to the FDA for this courageous decision that will continue to allow the approval of safe and efficacious medicines for patients.

Sincerely,

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