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DONALD E. HINES  
President of the Senate

January 27, 2006

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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, the undersigned organizations, offer our strong support to today's 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.

Representing organizations based in states across the United States, we understand the importance of prudent tort reform measures that guard against frivolous and excessive lawsuits, crippling business and innovation. Thankfully, this has all been avoided with this decision.

We consider the Food & Drug Administration the world's "gold standard" when it comes to ensuring safe medicines. Again, 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 consumers.

Sincerely,

Don Hines  
Senate President

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