



FOUNDED BY BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
AND MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

March 25, 2010



Gary L. Gottlieb, M.D., M.B.A.
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Partners HealthCare System, Inc.*
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The Honorable Michael E. Capuano
1414 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

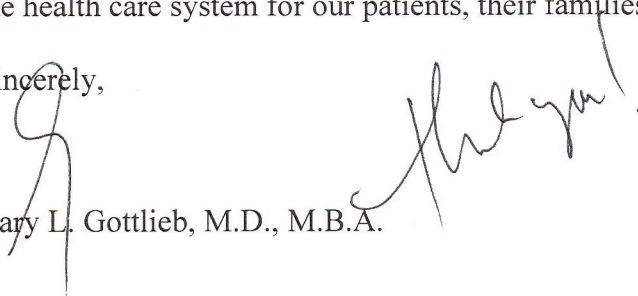
Dear Congressman Capuano:

On behalf of Partners HealthCare, I would like to congratulate and thank you and your staff on the passage of national health reform. With your steadfast leadership and dedication to this social justice issue, our country will finally fulfill its moral obligation to provide near universal health coverage for its citizens.

We are especially grateful for your commitment to protecting Massachusetts. You ensured the progress we have made under our own state reform will remain intact under national reform. We are also very thankful for your unwavering support in protecting Massachusetts hospitals; in particular, we appreciate your advocacy against proposals regarding geographic variation based on unadjusted data from the Dartmouth Atlas, which would have greatly reduced Medicare payments to our state. As you know, our hospitals are the economic engines in their local communities and Medicare makes up a significant portion of their revenue.

While we recognize that there is still a lot of work ahead, we want to assure you that we remain committed to supporting you and your staff over the coming years as the legislation is implemented. Again, we congratulate you on this historic achievement and we look forward to continuing our work together to improve the quality and efficiency of the health care system for our patients, their families and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,


Gary L. Gottlieb, M.D., M.B.A.