



MAR 15 2010

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman  
Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Barton  
Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
2322 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael Burgess, M.D.  
United States House of Representatives  
229 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Waxman, Ranking Member Barton and Representative Burgess:

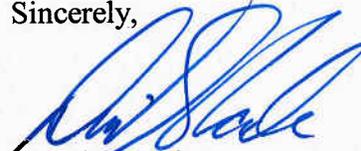
I am writing in response to your letter dated February 17, 2010, in which you request the production of "any paper or electronic communications between the Department of Health and Human Services and the health care industry regarding agreements between the White House and any private party, including individuals, groups, associations or companies relating to any of the following 111th Congress healthcare bills: H.R. 3200, H.R. 3590, H.R. 3961, S 1679, or S. 1796." We are not aware of any such agreements between the White House and the private parties noted above, and, in the course of a thorough review, did not locate any paper or electronic communications responsive to your request.

We understand that, on January 26, 2010, Robert F. Bauer, Counsel to the President, responded to a request from Congressman Burgess on a similar subject by highlighting the Administration's commitment to transparency in government, and providing information relating to White House discussions and meetings with a broad range of organizations and associations representing various components in the health care system. Much of this information is also on the White House website.

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The Honorable Joe Barton  
The Honorable Michael Burgess, M.D.

Thank you for your letter. We look forward to working with you and the other Members of the Committee on issues of common concern.

Sincerely,



David S. Cade  
Acting General Counsel