

HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA  
CHAIRMAN

JOHN D. DINGELL, MICHIGAN  
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS  
EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS  
RICK BOUCHER, VIRGINIA  
FRANK PALLONE, Jr., NEW JERSEY  
BART GORDON, TENNESSEE  
BOBBY L. RUSH, ILLINOIS  
ANNA G. ESHOO, CALIFORNIA  
BART STUPAK, MICHIGAN  
ELIOT L. ENGEL, NEW YORK  
GENE GREEN, TEXAS  
DIANA DEGETTE, COLORADO  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
LOIS CAPPS, CALIFORNIA  
MIKE DOYLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
JANE HARMAN, CALIFORNIA  
JAN SCHAKOWSKY, ILLINOIS  
CHARLES A. GONZALEZ, TEXAS  
JAY INSLEE, WASHINGTON  
TAMMY BALDWIN, WISCONSIN  
MIKE ROSS, ARKANSAS  
ANTHONY D. WEINER, NEW YORK  
JIM MATHESON, UTAH  
G.K. BUTTERFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA  
CHARLIE MELANCON, LOUISIANA  
JOHN BARROW, GEORGIA  
BARON P. HILL, INDIANA  
DORIS O. MATSUI, CALIFORNIA  
DONNA CHRISTENSEN, VIRGIN ISLANDS  
KATHY CASTOR, FLORIDA  
JOHN SARBANES, MARYLAND  
CHRISTOPHER MURPHY, CONNECTICUT  
ZACHARY T. SPACE, OHIO  
JERRY MCNERNEY, CALIFORNIA  
BETTY SUTTON, OHIO  
BRUCE BRALEY, IOWA  
PETER WELCH, VERMONT

JOE BARTON, TEXAS  
RANKING MEMBER

ROY BLUNT, MISSOURI  
DEPUTY RANKING MEMBER  
RALPH M. HALL, TEXAS  
FRED UPTON, MICHIGAN  
CLIFF STEARNS, FLORIDA  
ED WHITFIELD, KENTUCKY  
JOHN SHIMKUS, ILLINOIS  
JOHN B. SHADDEG, ARIZONA  
STEVE BUYER, INDIANA  
GEORGE RADANOVICH, CALIFORNIA  
JOSEPH R. PITTS, PENNSYLVANIA  
MARY BONO MACK, CALIFORNIA  
LEE TERRY, NEBRASKA  
MIKE ROGERS, MICHIGAN  
SUE WILKINS MYRICK, NORTH CAROLINA  
JOHN SULLIVAN, OKLAHOMA  
TIM MURPHY, PENNSYLVANIA  
MICHAEL C. BURGESS, TEXAS  
MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE  
PHIL GINGREY, GEORGIA  
STEVE SCALISE, LOUISIANA  
PARKER GRIFFITH, ALABAMA  
ROBERT E. LATTI, OHIO

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

MAJORITY (202) 225-2927  
FACSIMILE (202) 225-2525  
MINORITY (202) 225-3641

[energycommerce.house.gov](http://energycommerce.house.gov)

September 10, 2010

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We write to follow up on our letter dated July 30, 2010, requesting that the Secretary of Health and Human Services testify before the Committee on Energy and Commerce. Since we sent that letter, Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said during an interview with ABC News Radio on August 30, 2010, "[T]here is still a great deal of confusion about what is in [the health care law] and what isn't." The Secretary concluded that the administration had "a lot of reeducation to do." In light of that statement, we reiterate our request that you invite Secretary Sebelius to testify before the Committee on the implementation and administration of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). We have received no response to our previous letter, but we continue to believe that a hearing with Secretary Sebelius would provide both an opportunity for the Secretary to explain her "reeducation" statement, as well as provide an opportunity for Members on both sides of the aisle to obtain the latest information about the implementation of the PPACA for the benefit of our constituents.

It has now been six months since the passage of the PPACA, and this Committee has yet to hear from Secretary Sebelius on her efforts to administer the law. Secretary Sebelius is the head of the department now responsible for overseeing a dramatic change to one-fifth of the American economy, and Members of Congress should have the opportunity to discuss the PPACA with her.

Finally, we wish to note that this Committee should not avoid the important oversight work it has done in the past, especially when that oversight involves a law affecting every American. In the months leading up to the passage of the PPACA, the Subcommittee on Health

Letter to the Honorable Henry A. Waxman  
Page 2


and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a number of hearings in order to build support for the passage of a new health care law.

Since its passage, however, these committees have not held *one* hearing specifically on the PPACA. As the Ranking Members of the Full Committee and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, we believe this is unacceptable. Inviting Secretary Sebelius to testify before this Committee, so that we may understand her "reeducation" of the American public, would be a good start to a public conversation about the new health care law.

We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

  
Joe Barton  
Ranking Member

  
Michael C. Burgess  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: The Honorable Bart Stupak, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations