News Release

For Immediate Release

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MHPA Statement on Health Reform Legislation

Washington, DC; March 23, 2010 — Thomas L. Johnson, President & CEO of Medicaid Health Plans of America (MHPA), the leading trade association solely focused on representing Medicaid health plans, issued the following statement after the House voted last night on both the Senate and Reconciliation bills:

"Congress has made a historical commitment to providing access to health care for 16 million low-income Americans through expansion of the Medicaid program. The bills also maintain and strengthen health coverage for kids through the Children's Health Insurance Program."

"We applaud Congress for extending prescription drug rebates to states for Medicaid health plan enrollees. This ends a long-time disparity in law that disadvantages states from receiving additional rebates for drugs simply because Medicaid beneficiaries are in Medicaid health plans. We believe this is a tremendous improvement in the administration of state Medicaid programs and will help improve care coordination and the quality of health care for Medicaid members."

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Medicaid Health Plans of America or "MHPA" is the leading trade association solely focused on representing Medicaid health plans. The Association provides advocacy, research, analysis and organized forums that support the development of effective policy solutions to promote and enhance the delivery of quality health care. For more information, visit Medicaid Health Plans of America at www.mhpa.org or email at mhpa@rcn.com