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The Honorable Bill Thomas
2208 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515



November 18, 2003

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Dear Congressman Thomas:

On behalf of Humana Inc, I thank you for reaching agreement on landmark legislation to improve the Medicare program for 40 million seniors and disabled Americans. Congress is on the verge of an historic opportunity to modernize and improve Medicare and give seniors a prescription drug benefit that they want and they deserve.

We are proud of the conferees in reaching a bipartisan consensus on reforming and improving Medicare. We strongly support the goal of this legislation – to permit all seniors in America to choose their health plan – whether it is traditional Medicare that has been improved or whether it is a private health plan option in their community. In addition, the legislation provides seniors with important health information – about quality and about cost. This information, combined with efforts like disease management, will improve and modernize the Medicare program for seniors today and tomorrow.

Finally, we want to thank the conferees for stabilizing the Medicare+Choice program. This program has been an effective option for some seniors in America. Humana is proud to be an M+C provider offering benefits to over 325,000 beneficiaries in America. We retain our commitment to expand health care coverage options and we applaud the conferees for recognizing that this program needed support today.

We thank the conferees for achieving a bipartisan consensus. We support your efforts to modernize Medicare, to give seniors private plan choices and a prescription drug benefit that they deserve. Let's keep America's commitment to our seniors and pass this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. McCallister", written in a cursive style.

Michael B. McCallister