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November 18, 2003

The Honorable William Thomas
Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
Longworth House Office Building
Room: 1102
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thomas:

Congratulations to you and the members of the conference committee on reaching a compromise to modernize and improve Medicare. While this has been no easy task, your persistence and leadership has paid off. Congress has risen above politics and decided to do the right thing for the country's seniors.

As the nation's leading provider of prescription drug care, Medco Health Solutions has worked with you and your staff for many years to get to this point. Like you, we believe that America's seniors deserve the highest quality health care services, ***including*** a prescription drug benefit that will provide more affordable access to lifesaving medicines.

We are encouraged that the compromise proposal developed by the committee achieves these goals through a system built on choice. Giving seniors a variety of choices is the best mechanism to ensure that they obtain prescription drug and overall health care services that are uniquely suited to their individual needs.

We look forward to working with Congress and the Administration to help see this proposal signed into law and to ensure that it will be implemented in a way that will best benefit the Medicare population. Again, congratulations on reaching an agreement to invest in America's seniors.

Sincerely,

