



THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
GOVERNOR

June 11, 2007

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt
Secretary, U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Leavitt:

I want to express my enthusiastic support for the Oregon, *Bridges to Better Health Care*, proposal for the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services' second round "Medicaid Transformation Grant."

As Governor of Oregon, I am firmly committed to the four "cornerstones" of value-driven health care that includes supporting interoperable health information technology, transparency of quality information, transparency of price information, and providing incentives to beneficiaries and providers to make the most of every health care dollar.

Thanks to tremendous support from CMS, both in Baltimore and in our regional office, Oregon is making a smooth transition to a new Medicaid Management Information System that will assist in achieving those ends. The funds that this transformation grant provides will help Oregonians gain access to essential health care services, while making them more affordable and cost effective.

I am pleased with the collaborative relationships that have developed in putting together this proposal and I look forward very much to its favorable review by your office. Thank you for your support for this important work.

Very truly yours,

THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

TRK:DHS:DMAP/mr/helmer/lemman

Copy: Dennis G. Smith, Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Jean Sheil, Director, Family and Children's Health Programs Group
Joi Grymes, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of Acquisition and Grants Management
Sarah Bittleman, Oregon Director of Federal Affairs
Oregon Congressional Delegation