

June 3, 2009

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chair  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

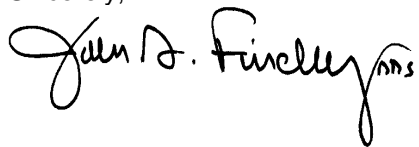
Dear Chairman Leahy:

The American Dental Association (ADA), which represents over 157,000 dentists and 70 percent of the profession, urges you to re-introduce the "Insurance Industry Competition Support Act of 2007." As you know, passage of the bill would repeal the McCarran-Ferguson Act's federal antitrust exemption for the "business of insurance." The repeal would simply place the insurance industry on the same footing with respect to the federal antitrust laws as most other American businesses. As you may already know, Rep. Peter DeFazio has already introduced a new House version (H.R. 1583, the "Insurance Industry Competition Act of 2009").

Today, virtually all policy makers recognize the need to both curtail the rising cost of health care coverage and furnish consumers with more coverage options. Passage of the Act could help to achieve these important goals by encouraging the sort of robust competition that, in the health insurance context, would promote innovations in health care delivery that benefit patients.

In this way, dentists, their patients, and the public at large would all be beneficiaries of the pro-competitive effects that the repeal of the McCarran-Ferguson exemption would have in the health care arena. Thank you for your consideration of the Association's request.

Sincerely,



John S. Findley, D.D.S.  
President

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