**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** December 12, 2006

## STATEMENT BY SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY ON TRUST FOR AMERICA'S HEALTH REPORT

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy released the following statement on the Trust for America's Health report:

"This report once again shows that too many states are not fully prepared to combat bioterrorism, natural disasters or flu pandemics. Thankfully, on Saturday Congress took action and passed the Burr-Kennedy legislation to strengthen public health preparedness. With this bill, we take many important steps to strengthen America's public health by clarifying the responsibilities of Federal officials, increasing our medical surge capacity, strengthening our public health workforce and infrastructure, and promoting the development of new vaccines. As we move into the 110th Congress, I look forward to working with my colleagues to support this bill and other pieces of legislation designed to make a safer nation."

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