



U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON

Finance

SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY, OF IOWA - CHAIRMAN

<http://finance.senate.gov>

MEMORANDUM

To: Reporters and Editors
Re: Nomination of Mark McClellan
Da: Friday, Feb. 20, 2004

Sen. Chuck Grassley, chairman of the Committee on Finance, today made the following comment on President Bush's nomination of U.S. Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Mark McClellan to lead the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). If confirmed, McClellan will oversee the rollout of Medicare's expanded benefits and prescription-drug coverage for beneficiaries, the result of legislation Grassley shepherded through the Senate. The Finance Committee will consider McClellan's nomination and decide whether to recommend him to the full Senate for confirmation.

"CMS has more responsibility than ever before. We need a CMS leader who understands how to do the job not just adequately, but very well. This position is so important, and I plan to schedule a nomination hearing in the Finance Committee as soon as possible after receiving the nomination paperwork from the White House. Dr. McClellan is well-regarded on Capitol Hill, and his background and expertise make him a strong nominee."