

For Immediate Release

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Thursday, January 29, 2009

ENZI: BETTER HEALTH CARE VALUE MEANS HIGHER QUALITY, LOWER COST

Washington, D.C. – Congress can improve health care quality while reducing costs for all Americans by focusing on efforts to get better value for every dollar spent on health care, U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY), Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, said today.

"We need to take steps to get better value for every dollar Americans spend on health care," Enzi said. "Comprehensive health care reform must be about more than expanding coverage – it must include provisions to improve quality while making health care more affordable."

Enzi said that his comprehensive health care reform bill, Ten Steps to Transform Health Care in America, included provisions that would not only reduce costs, but improve quality. Promoting widespread use of cutting edge health information technology (health IT), patient-centered medical justice reform, life-saving preventive services, and community health centers for rural and underserved populations would help patients get better, more affordable care, he said.

"We need to provide patients and doctors with reliable, up-to-date medical information so they can make the right decisions about their own care," Enzi said. "We can solve some of the most serious challenges facing health care today – like medical errors, inconsistent quality, and rising costs – through effective, widespread use of innovative health information technologies. Health IT will save lives and money."

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