



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

July 6, 2009

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Chairman
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing to express the Administration's support for the inclusion of the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act in the *Affordable Health Choices Act*. As you know, the President endorsed and cosponsored the CLASS Act when he was a United States Senator. He believes it is appropriate to include the CLASS Act as part of health reform because enactment of this important legislation would expand resources available to individuals and families to purchase long-term services and supports to enable them to remain in their own homes in the community. The CLASS Act is an innovative voluntary program that will provide important benefits to people who need them.

We look forward to working with Congress on issues related to implementation and administration of the legislation. Should you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Andrea Palm, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation, at (202) 690-7627.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathleen Sebelius".

Kathleen G. Sebelius
Secretary of Health and Human Services