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July 22, 2003

Donald S. Clark  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Trade Commission  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20580

Reference: Comments Regarding Hearings on Health Care and Competition Law and Policy

Dear Mr. Clark:

Consistent with your website instructions, six (6) copies of this comments package are being submitted today relative to Certificate of Need (CON) and related issues. This is a follow-up to the June 10, 2003, morning hearing on "Quality and Consumer Protection: Market Entry."

This package is composed of five (5) inter-related components as follows:

- AHPA Testimony Support Information (15 pages)
- CON and Related Health Services Regulation Representative Publications and Reports (2 pages)
- Health Service Volume and Treatment Outcome Representative Published Studies (3 pages)
- Comparative Studies of For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Health Care Services (3 pages)
- Certificate of Need: Protecting Consumer Interests (PowerPoint slides, 32 pages)

It is also important to clarify that state government officials and others who conduct CON programs represent the interests of the consumer of healthcare services. Virtually all concerns and complaints we have otherwise seen submitted are from healthcare providers, not consumers.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the consumers of health care in America.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Piper, Information Coordinator

c: David Hyman