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## Comptroller General Walker Announces Appointment of Members to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission

WASHINGTON, May 27, 2005 – Comptroller General of the United States David M. Walker has appointed two new members and reappointed three members to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC). The official announcement will be published in the Federal Register.

MedPAC is an independent federal body whose mandate is to analyze access to care, quality of care and other issues affecting Medicare and to advise the Congress on payments to health plans participating in the Medicare Advantage program and providers in Medicare's traditional fee-for-service program. "I am grateful for their willingness to serve on this important panel," Walker said.

The newly appointed members, whose terms will expire in 2008, are **Jennie Chin Hansen, R.N., M.S.N.**, member, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Board of Directors, and **Nancy M. Kane, D.B.A.**, professor of management, Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health.

The reappointed members, whose terms will also expire in 2008, are **Nancy-Ann DeParle, J.D.**, senior advisor, JP Morgan Partners, LLC and adjunct professor of health care systems, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; **David F. Durenberger**, chairman and chief executive officer, National Institute of Health Policy; and **Nicholas J. Wolter, M.D.**, chief executive officer, Deaconess Billings Clinic.

Commissioners whose terms will expire in April 2006 are **Autry O.V. (Pete) DeBusk**, chairman, DeRoyal; **Glenn M. Hackbarth, J.D.**, independent consultant; **Alan R. Nelson, M.D.**, special advisor to the executive vice president/chief executive officer, American College of Physicians; **Robert D. Reischauer, Ph.D.**, president, The Urban Institute; **David A. Smith**, senior fellow, Demos; and **Ray E. Stowers, D.O.**, director of rural health, Department of Family Medicine, Oklahoma State University, College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Commissioners whose terms will expire in April 2007 are **John M. Bertko, F.S.A., M.A.A.A.**, vice president and chief actuary, Humana Inc.; **Sheila P. Burke, M.P.A., R.N., F.A.A.N.**, deputy secretary and chief operating officer, Smithsonian Institution; **Francis J. Crosson, M.D.**, executive director, the Permanente Federation, LLC; **Arnold Milstein, M.D., M.P.H.**, medical director, Pacific Business Group on Health; **Ralph W. Muller**, chief executive officer, University of Pennsylvania Health System; and **William J. Scanlon, Ph.D.**, health policy consultant.

Following are brief biographies of the new commission members. For further information about MedPAC, contact MedPAC's executive director, Mark E. Miller, Ph.D., at (202) 220-3700. All other calls should be directed to GAO's Office of Public Affairs at (202) 512-4800.

**Jennie Chin Hansen, R.N., M.S.N.**, of San Francisco, CA, is a member of the AARP Board of Directors; a part time nursing faculty member at San Francisco State University; and a Senior Fellow at the University of California, San Francisco, Center for the Health Professions, chairing a three-year grant for the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation entitled the Integrated Nurse Leadership Project. In 2005, Ms. Hansen retired as executive director of On Lok, Inc., a nonprofit family of organizations providing comprehensive primary, acute and long-term care community based services to nearly 950 frail seniors and 5,000 well seniors throughout San Francisco. On Lok is the prototype for the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), which was signed into legislation in 1997 making this Medicare/Medicaid program available to all 50 states. Ms. Hansen began her career in community and public health nursing in urban and rural settings. She later taught at two California universities. Ms. Hansen currently serves in various leadership roles including the Advisory Board of the Institute for the Future of Aging Services, the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows Program and the California Health Care Foundation Health Care Fellows Program. She holds or had held numerous other volunteer positions including president of the 8,000-member American Society on Aging and founding board member of the National PACE Association.

**Nancy M. Kane, D.B.A.**, is professor of management in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Kane directs the Masters in Healthcare Management Program, an executive leadership program created for mid-career physicians leading healthcare organizations. She has taught in Executive and Masters Degree programs in the areas of health care accounting, payment systems, financial analysis, and competitive strategy. Her research interests include measuring hospital financial performance, quantifying community benefits and the value of tax exemption, the competitive structure and performance of hospital and insurance industries, and nonprofit hospital governance. Professor Kane consults with a wide range of federal and state agencies involved in health system design, oversight, and payment. She is currently an outside director of the Urban Medical Group, a nonprofit physician group practice providing care to frail elderly in institutional and home settings. Dr. Kane earned her Masters and Doctoral Degrees in Business Administration from Harvard Business School. Prior to obtaining her business training, she practiced as a hospital-based physical therapist.

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