



**Statement by Blair Childs, senior vice president of Public Affairs,
Premier healthcare alliance, on Chairman Max Baucus's health
reform proposal**

The Premier healthcare alliance applauds Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT) for his leadership and commitment to improving quality and reducing the cost of healthcare, as well as his efforts to address the perverse incentives ingrained in our current payment system.

We appreciate Chairman Baucus's recognition of our important partnership with CMS, and our member hospitals' role in advancing value-based purchasing through the Hospital Quality Incentive Demonstration (HQID) project. As Chairman Baucus's Call to Action points out, we have found substantial evidence to prove that aligning payment incentives with outcomes has a direct effect on improving quality and value. We also strongly agree with Chairman Baucus that greater transparency of cost and quality data, a national comparative research organization and increased utilization of health IT are all essential to continuous improvements.

We look forward to ongoing dialogue with Chairman Baucus and other members of Congress as we work to repair our fragmented system and enact legislation that improves the quality and value of our nation's healthcare.