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**STATEMENT BY SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY ON PRESIDENT BUSH'S
HEALTHCARE PLAN**

Washington, D.C. -- Today, President Bush is in Chattanooga to discuss his health care proposal. Senator Kennedy, Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Pensions and Labor Committee, released the following statement in response:

“Health care in America is in crisis, and what is needed is effective action to ensure that every American has quality, affordable health care, just as the President and members of Congress receive now. While the President’s focus on healthcare is important, his proposals will only worsen the crisis by undermining the quality coverage that millions of working families now rely on, and replacing it with a tax break that will benefit the wealthiest Americans.

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