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**STATEMENT OF SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY ON MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNOUNCEMENT**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, released the following statement in response to the announcement by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health that certain types of toothpaste being sold in Massachusetts may contain a dangerous chemical.

"Congress has a responsibility to see that the FDA has the authority and resources it needs to safeguard the health of American families. Today's report is a call to action for a stronger, more effective FDA."