

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**STATEMENT OF EDWARD M. KENNEDY ON THE HOUSE'S OFFICE OF THE SURGEON
GENERAL HEARING**

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 U.S. House of Representatives hearing on the Surgeon General nominee, Dr. James Holsinger, Jr.

"Dr. Carmona's strong testimony is yet another disturbing account of how the Bush Administration has put ideology ahead of the health needs of the American people – this time in the Office of the Surgeon General. Americans want their families to be safe and healthy. As we consider the President's nominee for Surgeon General this week, we owe it to the American people to be sure that he will base his policies on sound science and best medical practices, and not the politics and ideology that have put our health care at risk."

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