

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**KENNEDY ON BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN**

WASHINGTON, DC— Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, released the following statement in response to the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association's introduction of the "Pathway to Covering America: Ensuring Quality, Value, and Access," a plan to secure health insurance for all Americans.

"I commend the Association for making a serious contribution to the debate on health care reform. The American people are demanding change. It is unacceptable that quality health care is out of reach of millions of working families because it is unaffordable or unavailable, and Congress must act to see that quality, affordable health care is within reach for all Americans."

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