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For Immediate Release

National Medical Association Looks Forward to Senate Finance Markup

September 22, 2009, Washington, DC... "We are pleased that the Senate Finance document is now under review. We appreciate Chairman Baucus and his staff for their hard work", said Dr. Willarda Edwards, President of the National Medical Association (NMA).

The NMA has expressed strong support for a 'public option'. "We are uncertain as to how co-ops would solve coverage and affordability problems if they are designed on a state-by-state basis", said Dr. Mohammad Akhter, the NMA's Executive Director. "Hopefully, the markup will shed more light."

"America's physicians are solidly behind the President and the Congress in this effort, continued Dr. Edwards, but we must stand shoulder-to-shoulder in addressing the affordability, quality, and sustainability of the nation's health care system. The Chairman's mark is a step in that direction."

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Founded in 1895, the National Medical Association is the nation's oldest and largest medical association representing the interests of more than 30,000 African-American physicians and their patients. The NMA repeatedly advocates for policies that would assure equitable and quality health care for all people.