



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **PIPC Supports New Senate Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) Bill**

*Senators Baucus and Conrad advance patient-centered research*

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The Partnership to Improve Patient Care (PIPC) praised Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad (D-ND) for their introduction of “The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Act of 2009.” The bill provides sound framework for comparative clinical effectiveness research and includes many important provisions to ensure a focus on patient and provider needs and better healthcare quality.

On behalf of the forty members of PIPC, its chairman, Tony Coelho, made the following statement:

“As an epileptic myself, I recognize the need for continued patient-provider protections. Each of us is different and each of us has different medical needs so it’s important that we be allowed to maintain our close personal relationship with our medical providers. This bill demonstrates Chairman Baucus’s and Chairman Conrad’s continued public leadership on behalf of patients across the country and demonstrates the seriousness with which they take this issue. Their bill represents an important step forward for patients and ensures that all facets of the healthcare sector are at the table when making CER decisions. As Congress works to reform our current healthcare system, I am heartened that leaders – in both chambers of Congress – are drafting and advancing legislation that focuses on the most important aspect of healthcare – the patient.”

### **About PIPC**

The Partnership to Improve Patient Care was formed in November 2008 to support new comparative effectiveness research proposals that are centered on patient and provider needs; raise awareness about the value of well-designed CER; and promote the important role of continued medical innovation as part of the solution to cost and quality challenges in health care. Partnership members include a wide range of healthcare organizations representing patient, provider and industry advocacy groups.

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