Dear Llew,

As your benefits administrator we feel it is important to keep you abreast of Health Reform updates. In an effort to better serve you, we will provide briefings on a periodic basis regarding the Health Care Reform legislation currently on the agenda in Washington, D.C. Members of our staff will be traveling to our nation's capitol in the near future to become more informed and pass that information to our clients and vendors.

See the article below for the latest developments as recapped for easy interpretation. Look for more news alerts in the near future.

Sincerely,

Sara Hotvedt, COO
Midwest Group Benefits, Inc.

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Health Reform Update

The press has bombarded us from all directions and created a great deal of curiosity and confusion. A large part of the confusion has been created by the legislative process. In December of 2009, the U.S. Senate passed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. On March 21, 2010, this Act was passed in the U.S. House of
Representatives and it was signed into law by President Obama on March 23, 2010. In addition to the main bill, the House also passed a budget reconciliation bill. The Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 included changes to the main bill sought by the House. This bill makes changes to the original bill passed and signed by the President. On Thursday (March 25, 2010), Congress voted and gave final approval to the measure, clearing the bill for President Obama's signature.

At this time there are a lot of questions and what is to come will hinge on the interpretation and timing of the legislation. We will continue to monitor the progression and keep you informed of any immediate or long term impact of the upcoming changes. Representatives from our office will be attending a conference in Washington, D.C. in early April where we will hear from attorneys and the regulatory agencies affected by this legislation. Be cautious and aware of vendors attempting to exploit this situation until all of the facts are known.

As always, feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.