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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

**COMMITTEES:**

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

September 9, 2009

Mr. Louis A. Ambrose  
Executive Director  
Council of Seniors  
5235 Westview Drive, Suite 100  
Frederick, MD 21703-8397

Dear Mr. Ambrose,

Thank you for taking the time to write to me in regards to healthcare reform, especially when it comes to covering seniors. As a member of the Senate Aging Committee, protecting Medicare and providing quality, affordable healthcare to seniors is very important to me.

In the Senate, healthcare and Medicare reform are top priorities of mine. Last year, while serving in the House, I voted twice for H.R. 6331, the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act, which became law on July 15, 2008. This new law made a number of significant improvements to Medicare, including expansion of coverage for preventative services, providing greater benefits to low-income seniors, and reversing a dramatic payment cut to doctors who care for Medicare patients.

Reform of the health care system will help lower costs and increase options for seniors. It will provide more access to generic drugs and offer discounts on prescriptions for those who enter the Medicare Part D "Doughnut Hole." Seniors will have more opportunities to collaborate with their physicians on treatment, receive free coverage of basic preventive services, and strengthen the coverage they currently have.

Looking forward, I will continue to work hard to provide comprehensive healthcare reform that protects seniors. I am committed to addressing this important issue and will work on a bipartisan solution.

Thank you again for writing to express your concerns and I hope that you keep in touch with my office regarding future legislation and concerns you may have. For more information on this and other important issues, please visit my website at <http://gillibrand.senate.gov> and sign up for my e-newsletter.

Sincerely yours,



Kirsten E. Gillibrand