

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 11, 2013

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary of Health and Human Services
The Hubert H. Humphrey Building
200 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

The Affordable Care Act is giving millions of Americans access to affordable, quality health insurance, many for the first time. Yet, with this influx of new consumers and procedures also comes increased opportunity for criminals and con artists to prey on unsuspecting Americans. I am particularly concerned about fraud in Hispanic communities and among those with limited English proficiency.

Hispanics make up approximately one-third of the uninsured population in the U.S. despite comprising only 17 percent of the population overall. As such, they are poised to benefit a great deal as the Affordable Care Act helps many buy health insurance for the first time. However, as they are new to the health insurance market, they face a higher risk of becoming victims of healthcare fraud.

I have been pleased to see the Administration's commitment to protecting consumers and preventing fraud in the health insurance marketplace. The Affordable Care Act improves and strengthens efforts to combat health care fraud, including tougher rules and sentences for criminals, enhanced screening, better technology to detect suspect behaviors, and increased financial resources. These efforts have helped the federal government recover \$4.2 billion in 2012 from individuals who attempted to defraud seniors and taxpayers.

I urge you, however, to ensure that your efforts to educate consumers and prevent fraud are as robust in Spanish as they are in English in order to provide Hispanic consumers with comparable access to information and assistance. While knowledge does not prevent fraud in every instance, consumers who know what to watch for and be wary of are less likely to be victims. Ensuring that Hispanics have equal access to information by providing comparable resources in Spanish and English will give them these tools and help reduce the opportunities for fraud.

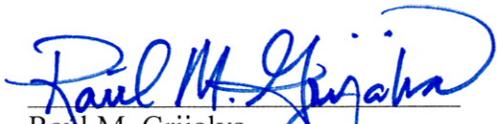
Sincerely,

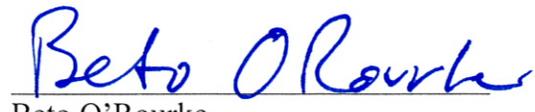


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Member of Congress

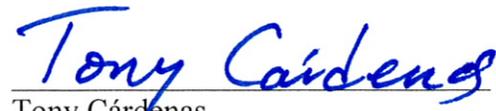


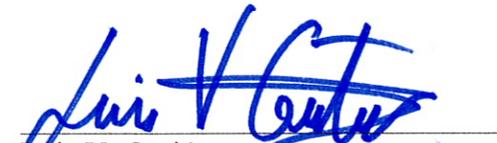
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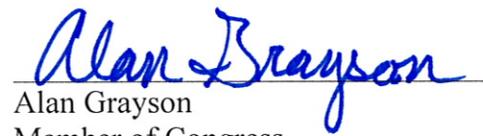

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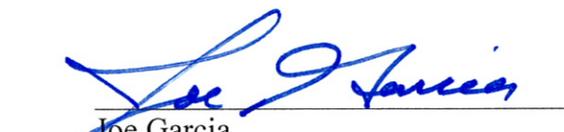

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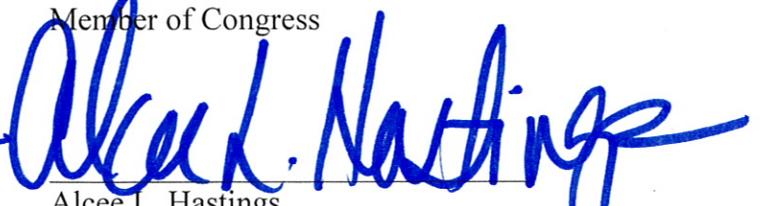

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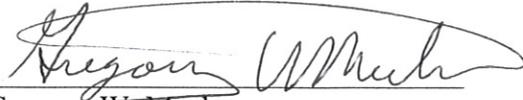

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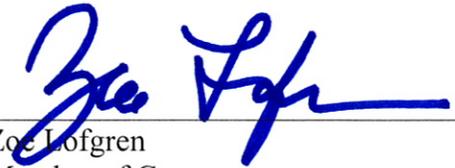
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