



**Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim
Committee**

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60th Montana Legislature

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September 8, 2008

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307 Park Lake Circle, PO Box 531107
Orlando FL 32803

Kim Streit, MBA, MHS
VP/Healthcare Research and Information
Florida Hospital Association
307 Park Lake Circle, PO Box 531107
Orlando FL 32803

Dear Mr. Rasmussen and Ms. Streit:

The Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee of the Montana Legislature has been working for the past 16 months on issues related to providing consumers with more information helpful for their educated use in obtaining health care. MHA, an Association of Montana Health Care Providers, has been involved throughout this process. At the committee's August 22 meeting MHA demonstrated a consumer health information website built on the model that the Florida Hospital Association so generously provided to them. In recognition of your roles in helping MHA develop that website by providing source codes and software information, the committee voted to send a letter thanking your organization.

Through your efforts and MHA's efforts to help consumers investigate pricing and quality concerns related to health care, patients will be able to exercise more responsibility in choosing health care providers and be more aware of the costs of their health care. At least, that is the committee's hope and expectation.

Thank you for your personal efforts to help speed the process by which MHA is making health care information more readily accessible to Montana consumers.

Sincerely,

Representative Edith Clark, presiding officer
Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee

cc: Bob Olsen, MHA
Roberta Yager, MHA

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