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PAM BONDI
ATTORNEY GENERAL-ELECT
STATE OF FLORIDA

November 17, 2010

Dear Attorneys General, Attorneys General-elect and Governors-elect,

We write to ask you to consider joining the 20 States in the on-going federal health care lawsuit, *Florida v. U.S. Health and Human Services*. As litigation over the federal health care act was a critical issue in many of your campaigns and in elections across the country, we want to continue to send a strong signal concerning the role of states in our Constitutional framework.

We anticipate seeking leave of the Court to update our Plaintiff names and to add new Plaintiff States following your inaugurations. Having a majority of the States litigating our Constitutional rights is a powerful message. Federalism and state sovereignty is ingrained in our Constitutional structure both from the specific, enumerated powers of the federal government and from rights of States protected under the 10th Amendment. The federal health care act is a significant threat to the Constitution, and we hope a united front of States will demonstrate the vital necessity of the balance of power between the federal government and states as achieved by the Framers.

We feel, as many of you do, that it is incumbent particularly upon Attorneys General to defend the principles of federalism under our Constitution. We also share your concerns about the significant impact that the federal health care law, as an unfunded mandate, will have on your state budgets.

The Florida Attorney General's Office will be contacting you to discuss joining as Plaintiff States. Additionally we invite you to join us and fellow Attorneys General at oral argument on December 16 at the federal district court in Pensacola, Florida.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill McCollum".

Bill McCollum
Attorney General of Florida

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pam Bondi".

Pam Bondi
Attorney General-elect of Florida

cc: Plaintiffs States

Distribution List:

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