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**People with Pain May Find Better Care, More Relief Due to Healthcare Reform
Laws**

March 25, 2010 (Glenview, IL)—In response to the healthcare reform legislation that was signed into law this week, the American Academy of Pain Medicine (AAPMedicine), in a statement released today, voiced its strong support of certain components of the reform legislation that will “improve the quality of life for people who suffer with chronic and acute pain.”

The Academy is referring specifically to Section 4305 of the Health Insurance Reform legislation, now signed into law by President Obama, which incorporates several pain initiatives that open the door for better research, education, training and clinical care. The key components of this legislation will help raise awareness, identify barriers, establish action plans for research, education and training.

“The portions of the Healthcare Reform legislation that deal with pain will benefit many and should be applauded on behalf of pain sufferers across the nation,” Academy President Eduardo Fraifeld, MD said. Pain physicians have long recognized the need for

solid pain research and education, as indicated in AAPMedicine's [Position Paper](#) in Fall 2009 that clearly documented the need for these efforts on behalf of those suffering with pain, Dr. Fraifeld explained.

The American Academy of Pain Medicine and several other key pain organizations have been working with legislators for several years now to help secure the resources necessary to help people in pain.

President-Elect Perry Fine, MD said, "This legislation provides the necessary components for physicians to help our patients who are living with compromised lifestyles because of the chronic pain they face each day."

Furthermore, the Academy played a lead role in advancing the call for better pain care as it joined with physician leaders from across the country in a closed-door National Pain Summit that took place adjacent to an AMA meeting last Fall in Houston, Texas.

"Everyone knows someone whose life has been changed in profound ways by pain that has not been effectively controlled," said Dr. Fine, who has been vigilant in bringing the disparity between patient suffering and under-accessed pain care before Congress. "We now have the avenue to reduce barriers to care, the research to quantify the science of pain and a means to educate and train clinicians across multiple specialties and disciplines," he said.

About the AAPMedicine

For more than 25 years, the American Academy of Pain Medicine is the premiere medical specialty society representing more than 2,500 physicians and their treatment teams practicing in the field of comprehensive pain medicine. The Academy is involved in education, training, advocacy and research in the specialty of pain medicine information is available on the practice of pain medicine at www.painmed.org.

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