

## Senator Coleman Steps up for Long Term Care

Senator Norm Coleman (R-MN) showed his continued support for the nation's long term care profession this week, adding his name as a cosponsor to two pieces of legislation strongly supported by AHCA/NCAL. The first, *The Long Term Care Quality and Modernization Act of 2007 S.1980*, will enhance long term care quality by promoting investment in capital improvements; encouraging improved collaboration between providers and surveyors; assisting in the creation of a stable and well-trained workforce; and modernizing the fragmented, inefficient Medicare payment system by removing barriers to care for long term care residents. The bill was originally introduced last year by Senators Gordon Smith (R-OR), Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), and Susan Collins (R-ME).

Senator Coleman also joined nineteen of his Senate colleagues by cosponsoring *The Home and Community Services Copayment Equity Act of 2007, S.1107*, which would provide dual eligibles—those eligible for Medicare and Medicaid—living in our nation's assisted living residences and other home and community-based settings (HCBS) the same copay coverage under Medicare Part D as those residing in nursing facilities.

If you would like more information about how you can contact your Senators to ask for their support, please contact [Matt Smyth](#).