



NEWS RELEASE

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PHYSICIAN HOSPITALS OF AMERICA (PHA) APPLAUDS PRESIDENT ELECT OBAMA'S SELECTION OF SEN. DASCHLE AS HHS SECRETARY

(Sioux Falls, SD - December 16, 2008) -- Physician Hospitals of America (PHA) is applauding President-elect Barack Obama's selection of Senator Tom Daschle to become Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services in his Cabinet.

Daschle, who served as U.S. Senator from South Dakota, is both known and respected by Physician Hospitals of America which is headquartered in Sioux Falls.

"Tom Daschle is an extraordinary selection for HHS Secretary," said Molly Sandvig, PHA's Executive Director, "We have had the pleasure of working with Tom Daschle for many years and are confident that his steady hand and commitment to reforming health care will serve our country well."

In accepting President-elect Obama's nomination, Daschle acknowledged that fixing health care will be the nation's largest domestic policy challenge. As the President-elect announced, Daschle will lead the White House health reform effort. Ms. Sandvig noted, "We look forward to working with the new Administration and volunteer our collective efforts toward positive healthcare reform in America."

PHA hospitals are owned and operated by physicians who have initiated hospital reforms themselves, not by bureaucrats. The concept of direct physician involvement has become central to the design and implementation of hospital reform measures already underway that are producing both cost savings and, most critically, better patient outcomes.

PHA is online at: www.physicianhospitals.org

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