



THOMSON REUTERS

Senator Tom Coburn MD
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Tom Carper
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

June 28, 2011

Dear Senators Coburn and Carper,

Thomson Reuters Healthcare thinks meaningful attempts to address the problem of fraud and abuse in healthcare will yield positive results that will benefit the system as a whole. As our whitepapers have indicated, roughly one out of every three dollars spent on healthcare does not make someone better or prevent someone from getting sick. Moreover, among our suggested strategies to reduce healthcare inefficiency, program integrity is a key one. We applaud all efforts, including those of the bipartisan FAST Act sponsors, to advance efficiency, quality and cost control in the U.S. Healthcare system.

We believe that the vast majority of health care providers work hard to not just offer excellent care, but also strive to bill appropriately in order to receive compensation for only those services delivered. We also support efforts to give those providers special recognition and treatment through 'gold card' status.

Our decades of experience in data analytics has proven that only a small fraction of healthcare providers and other parties engage in fraudulent and abusive practices. These entities have been diverting billions of health care dollars through questionable and criminal activities challenging the medical system and budget. We believe that it is everyone's responsibility to root out fraud and abuse and redirect the money for better use. Our whitepaper estimates the potential savings to be between \$125-175 Billion annually. Our research and experience with Zone Program Integrity Contractors (ZPICs), the Medicaid Integrity Program, and payment integrity efforts for State Medicaid agencies show that it is possible to apply cutting edge techniques and identify incorrect and suspicious activity through sophisticated algorithms that include strong clinical and medical delivery understanding. We support all efforts to prevent fraud and abuse prior to payment. The time is right to apply state of the art medical informatics and health information systems technologies to solve this problem.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Fabius MD FACPE
Chief Medical Officer

Courtney Morris
Senior Vice President