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## **Catholic Healthcare West Applauds Passage of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act**

*Statement should be attributed to Lloyd H. Dean, President/CEO*

**San Francisco, CA** – March 22, 2010 – “Catholic Healthcare West has long been a strong advocate for meaningful, comprehensive health care reform. We applaud the U.S. House of Representatives for voting to move the nation toward a new health compact by passing *The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act*.

“Everyone involved in this important debate recognizes that this effort has been a long, tough, and often contentious road. This legislation addresses the real problems in our health care system: too many people without coverage and the high cost of care for all. We are hopeful that the Senate will act swiftly to pass the reconciliation bill so we can move to focusing on implementation.

“This is the beginning of an era of change. Now we must all come together to achieve the high quality outcomes and lower costs called for in the legislation. As always, CHW will continue to work with our national leaders, our excellent caregivers and staff, and the communities we are so fortunate to serve to ensure that everyone has access to quality, affordable health care.”

### **About Catholic Healthcare West**

Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), headquartered in San Francisco, CA, is a system of 41 hospitals and medical centers in California, Arizona, and Nevada. Founded in 1986, it is one of the nation’s largest not-for-profit health care systems and the largest private hospital system in California. CHW is committed to delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable health care services with special attention to the poor and underserved. The CHW network of nearly 10,000 physicians and approximately 54,000 employees provides health care services to more than five million people annually. In 2009, CHW provided nearly \$1.2 billion in charity care, community benefit, and unreimbursed patient care. For more information, please visit our website at [www.chwHEALTH.org](http://www.chwHEALTH.org).