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NEWS

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Senator Santorum Praised for Conducting Mechanicsburg Town Hall Meeting to Discuss the Federal Prescription Drug and Medicare Improvement Act

Harrisburg, PA – Alan G. Rosenbloom, President and CEO of the Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PHCA) today praised U.S. Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA) for hosting a town hall meeting at the Country Meadows Retirement Community of West Shore to discuss how the newly enacted Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 will affect seniors.

“Thanks to Senator Santorum, this historic legislation will help improve the health care and quality of our most frail, vulnerable senior population and improve providers’ ability to deliver quality patient care,” stated Rosenbloom. “This bill will help ensure seniors throughout the Commonwealth receive the best care we as a nation have to offer.”

The legislation, signed into law last month, creates new expanded options under the government-run health care program and gives seniors the choice to remain in the traditional Medicare program. Beginning in June, all seniors who choose to participate will receive a prescription drug discount card, which will save approximately 10-25% off of the cost of most medicines.

State Representative Pat Vance (R-87) who spearheaded the newly enacted PACE bill joined the Senator today who noted that strong provisions have been put in place to ensure that the new Medicare bill complements PACE/PACENET, Pennsylvania’s low-income drug assistance program.

“I have worked hard to ensure that a new drug benefit works effectively with PACE,” said Santorum, “allowing the program to complement, or wrap-around the new federal benefit.”

PHCA is a statewide membership services organization representing more than 325 long-term care and senior service providers throughout the Commonwealth. Additional information about PHCA is available by calling 717-221-1800 or visiting www.phca.org.

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