

TED POE
2ND DISTRICT, TEXAS

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4302

November 13, 2006

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The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Leavitt:

I have recently been informed of the problem of Medicare not taking repayments from accident victims, or their attorneys, after a monetary court settlement has been awarded. The inability of CMS to allow Medicare recipients to repay their bills has resulted in the recipients' inability to collect the monetary settlement.

I would like to know what CMS is doing to rectify this situation, and if steps are currently being taken to rectify the situation, I would like to know what the timeline is for CMS to begin accepting the repayments again.

I would appreciate a response within the next 90 days.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Poe", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

TED POE
Member of Congress
TEXAS