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October 5, 2005

Ms. Kristine M. Ossenfort
Senior Governmental Affairs Specialist
Maine Chamber of Commerce
7 University Drive
Augusta, Maine 04330-9412

Re: Critique of Mercer Report

Dear Kristine;

With regards to my October 4, 2005 letter to you, I want to clarify that our analysis in that letter is limited to addressing inconsistencies in the Mercer methodology. I have yet to review the documentation for the Mercer hospital and insurer savings estimates to verify their calculations and data. This does not represent our complete criticism of their methodologies and assumptions, which will be forthcoming in your prefiled testimony.

Please call me if you have any questions at (703) 269-5610.

Sincerely;

John F. Sheils
Vice President