



## National Association of Health Underwriters

*America's Benefits Specialists*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **President Obama Appoints Donald Berwick as New Medicare Chief**

(Arlington, VA) – President Obama filled a four-year vacancy at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently by appointing Donald Berwick as its new administrator via recess appointment.

As a recess appointee, Berwick will have full authority as CMS's administrator, but he will only be able to remain in his post until the end of the 111th Congress, or late 2011, unless he is confirmed by the full Senate before then. Berwick was in the process of being vetted by Senate Finance Committee members and awaiting a confirmation hearing by that committee. However, President Obama elected to install Berwick directly while the Senate was out of session.

“Berwick’s past experience includes a significant focus on reducing health care costs and quality of care issues, which NAHU views as essential priorities as health reform moves forward,” stated NAHU CEO Janet Trautwein. “Our association continues to work closely with CMS on the implementation of the new health care reform law and other key issues under its jurisdiction like Medicare and CHIP, and we look forward to building a relationship with Dr. Berwick in the coming weeks.”

The National Association of Health Underwriters represents more than 100,000 professional health insurance agents and brokers who provide insurance for millions of Americans. NAHU is headquartered in Arlington, VA. For more information, visit our web site at [www.nahu.org](http://www.nahu.org).

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