

October 7, 2011

The Honorable Thomas Carper
United States Senate
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Fax: (202) 228-2190

The Honorable Tom Coburn
United States Senate
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Fax: (202) 224-6008

Dear Senators Carper and Coburn:

On behalf of Reed Elsevier and our division LexisNexis, I am writing to express our support for S. 1251, The Medicare and Medicaid Fighting Fraud and Abuse to Save Taxpayer Dollars Act, also known as the FAST Act. LexisNexis is committed to efforts to combat waste, fraud and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. LexisNexis is a leader in identity and fraud analytics, leveraging technology and data linking capabilities, unique data and advanced scoring analytics to assist commercial and government clients in evaluating and managing risks and detecting and preventing identity theft, fraud, and improper payments.

We commend you for introducing this legislation that will put in place stronger penalties for Medicare fraud and will move beyond the "pay and chase" model to help stop fraud before it occurs. This bill will also promote the sharing of information across agencies to help prevent fraud.

In addition to the requirements specified in this bill, we recommend that the legislation be amended to require the implementation of strong identity proofing and identity analytics solutions utilizing commercially available databases sources containing aggregated public records in order to better detect fraud and improper payments. This technology has been proven to be effective in helping financial institutions, online retailers, and other businesses detect and prevent identity theft and fraud. Commercial databases containing aggregated public record information can be effective in verifying the identities of providers and suppliers of the Medicare program, as well as helping to verify the identity and eligibility of Medicare beneficiaries.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue. We look forward to working with you on this legislation as it moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,



Steven M. Manzo
Vice President, Government Affairs