

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 28, 2003

The Honorable Kay Coles James  
Office of Personnel Management  
1900 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20415

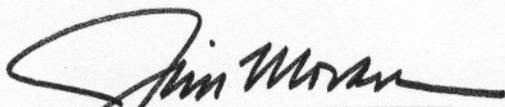
Dear Director James:

In response to yesterday's announcement regarding the three-year contract agreement reached by Children's Hospital and CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield, we would like to urge you to re-open "open season" for federal employees participating in the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program.

As you know, Children's Hospital and CareFirst were involved in a lengthy contract dispute which continued beyond December 9, 2002 – the close of open season. Thousands of participants who were enrolled in CareFirst – many of whom are federal employees – were adversely affected by the impasse and forced to switch their health care plans in the expectation of termination of coverage at Children's Hospital. With the welcomed announcement that both parties have reached a favorable agreement, federal employees and annuitants should be given the opportunity to re-establish a continuance of critical health care services at Children's Hospital.

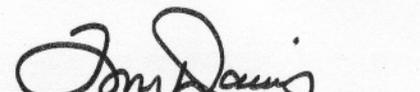
As representatives of countless federal employees affected by the Children's-CareFirst dispute, we ask that OPM consider this special circumstance and make available an additional open season to allow FEHBP participants the chance to re-enroll in CareFirst. We appreciate your consideration regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,



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James P. Moran



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Tom Davis