From:

Jeffery Flick Foster, Richard

To: Date:

6/20/03 3:16PM

Subject:

Re: Congressional Requests

Rick - i shared this with Tom. you can do #1 and send it - Tom does not need to see it. for #2 & #3 please work up the numbers and share them with Tom Soully only. NO ONE ELSE.

Tom was very explicit - do not share information on #2 & #3 with anyone else until Tom Scully explicitly talks with you - authorizing the release of information.

the consequences for insubordination are extremely severe, please call me if you have any questions regarding this instruction.

i don't like sending e-mails that sound this harsh, but this is very important and I do not want any misunderstanding.

thanks, jeff

>>> Richard Foster 06/20/03 02:54PM >>> Tom.

As I indicated in last week's report on outside requests, we received two potentially high-profile requests from the Ways and Means Committee staff, relating to the House Medicare reform package. In addition, late yesterday we received a third. These requests are:

- McManus: Estimated participation rate in voluntary drug benefit.
- Bjorklund: Estimated change in FFS premiums in 2010 and later.
- Bjorklund: Estimated change in beneficiary / government financing shares.

We will have answers to these questions in the near future. They strike me as straightforward requests for technical information that would be useful in assessing the drug and competition provisions in the House reform package, and the requests have been made in keeping with the arrangements that you and I worked out with Congress two years ago. I'll provide you with advance copies of our intended response.

I would very much like to avoid the problems that developed with Rep. Thomas' request for PPO participation estimates two weeks ago. At the same time, I believe I have a personal and professional responsibility to respond to these requests, and to do so as promptly as possible. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns you might have about these particular requests or the process in general.

Rick

CC:

Scully, Tom