



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.
20201

April 3, 2012

Joseph A. Bocchini, Jr., M.D.
Committee Chairperson
Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable
Disorders in Newborns and Children
Professor and Chairperson
Department of Pediatrics
Louisiana State University
1501 Kings Highway
Shreveport, LA 71130

Dear Dr. Bocchini:

Thank you for your two recent letters on behalf of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children (Committee).

In your first letter, four Committee recommendations were submitted to me regarding the matching of newborn screening records with birth certificate records. You also enclosed a copy of the Committee's report *Improving Data Quality and Quality Assurance in Newborn Screening by Including the Bloodspot Screening Collection Device Serial Number on Birth Certificates*. I will provide a more complete response to your recommendations upon a careful review of the options.

Your second letter provided me with an information copy of the report *Implementing Point-of-Care Newborn Screening*. The report provides valuable insight and information for the community and providers involved in newborn screening.

Please accept my personal thanks to you, the members, and the organizational representatives of the Committee for your valuable work to improve the health of our nation's infants and children.

Sincerely,

/s/

Kathleen Sebelius