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PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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All Illinois, Labor-endorsed Representatives Vote for Health Care Reform

*Statement from Michael T. Carrigan, President of the Illinois AFL-CIO -
The Illinois AFL-CIO represents over 1,500 affiliated labor unions with one million members across the state.*

"I am proud of and grateful for the support of Illinois' Democratic House Congressional delegation – all of which voted with working families on Saturday evening when they supported H.R. 3962 – the Affordable Health Care for America Act.

For years, the AFL-CIO and its state Labor Federations have worked hard for health care reform. It has been one of our core issues. And now we need to give credit where credit is due.

First and foremost, we thank President Obama for his leadership on this critical issue. He is standing by his campaign promise to make health care available for every American.

Representatives Bean, Costello, Davis, Foster, Gutierrez, Halvorson, Hare, Jackson, Lipinski, Quigley, Rush and Schakowsky have made history by standing up to the big money insurance companies and corporate interests and saying it's time for things to change. It's time that all Americans have quality, affordable health care that does not discriminate on the basis of gender, age, or pre-existing conditions.

I realize it took courage and fortitude to make the important, monumental vote to support this legislation. The one million union members in Illinois say thank you and we look forward to getting similar legislation passed in the Senate where Illinois has two strong advocates for health care reform in Senators Durbin and Burris."

