

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2309

July 28, 2011

Commissioner Margaret Hamburg
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20993

Dear Commissioner Hamburg,

Thank you for your testimony at today's hearing in the Help, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. I appreciated your expertise and your thoughtful consideration of improvements that can be made to strengthen medical device review processes to better protect patient safety and support innovation.

During the HELP Committee hearing this morning, you mentioned that you have not yet visited Minnesota to meet with the medical device industry and hear their suggestions and concerns as we begin work on the Medical Device User Fee Act reauthorization. I would like to take this opportunity to formally invite you to Minnesota to meet with industry representatives and visit their facilities.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to continuing to work with you to strengthen and improve the FDA's processes and support biomedical innovation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Franken", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Al Franken
United States Senator