

ADAP Advocacy Association

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Attn: Brandon M. Macsata, CEO
PO Box 15275
Washington, DC 20005

info@adapadvocacyassociation.org www.adapadvocacyassociation.org

ADAP Advocacy Association Praises Sen. Olympia Snowe for Supporting the "Addressing Cost Containment Measures to Ensure the Sustainability and Success of the ADAP Act"; the ACCESS ADAP Act would Eliminate Waiting Lists under the AIDS Drug Assistance Program

Moderate Republican's Support Seen as Crucial to Legislation's Passage

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (October 5, 2010) – The <u>ADAP Advocacy Association</u>, also known as <u>ada</u>+, today praised Senator Olympia Snowe (R-ME) for supporting the "<u>Addressing Cost Containment Measures to Ensure the Sustainability and Success of the ADAP Act" (<u>S.3401</u>). The ACCESS ADAP Act would transfer \$126 million from discretionary amounts appropriated under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Public Law 111-5) that remain unobligated, to be used by the Secretary of Health & Human Services in fiscal year 2010 to provide assistance in reducing waiting lists under the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs.</u>

"We're pleased that Sen. Snowe has once again demonstrated her ability to put the interests of everyday people in front of partisan politics, which is what has stalled passage of the ACCSES ADAP Act," said **Brandon M. Macsata**, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. "As a moderate in the U.S. Senate, she supported the President's 'Stimulus Package,' and clearly now understands the importance of using provisions in the law to help people in need! Despite Maine not even being among the states confronted with an ADAP waiting list, Sen. Snowe sees the exploding waiting lists for what they are...a public health emergency!"

aga+ approach Sen. Snowe about S.3401 over the August congressional recess.

ADAPs provide life-saving medications under the Ryan White CARE Act to people living with HIV/AIDS nationwide who are uninsured or under-insured. This vital federal-state program faces a \$126 million shortfall for fiscal year 2010, just to keep pace with current demand. That shortfall led to waiting lists nationwide totaling 3,447 – including Florida (1,934 people), Georgia (586 people), Iowa (9 people), Louisiana (470 people), Montana (10 people), North Carolina (36 people), Ohio (244 people) and South Carolina (158 people) as of October 4, 2010. ¹

According to Macsata, under the Stimulus law, HHS received \$22 billion in discretionary budget authority. The majority of these funds will be obligated by September 2010 to achieve the most rapid impact for citizens and States affected by the current economic downturn.

To learn more about S.3401, ADAP waiting lists or the ADAP Advocacy Association, please contact Brandon M. Macsata by phone at (305) 519-4256 or email at info@adapadvocacyassociation.org.

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¹ National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), "The ADAP Watch," October 4, 2010.