

UNITED STATES SENATOR • IOWA

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Closing Statement of Sen. Chuck Grassley
Committee on Finance Hearing, "Prescription for Fraud:
Consultants Selling Doctors Bad Billing Advice"
Wednesday, June 27, 2001

As we have heard today, there are those who would advise health care providers to improperly bill the government and circumvent compliance regulations. This is just not right. The General Accounting Offices's Office of Special Investigations has even determined the actions of some health care consultants to be criminal. An appropriate referral will be made to the Department of Health and Human Services Inspector General. As part of the Office of Special Investigation's criminal referral to the Health and Human Services Inspector General, Senator Baucus and I are asking the Inspector General to keep us informed of any of its findings or conclusions. I'm hoping we can stop these consultants and providers who think this kind of behavior is okay. I want to send a message loud and clear to these less than scrupulous health care consultants: the federal government and the Congress are watching you, and we won't tolerate any more of your shenanigans.