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December 29, 2010

The Honorable Sam Johnson - R Texas
1211 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am writing about a disease that impacts the lives of more than one million men and women across this country: **hemochromatosis**. I am one of the many who have struggled with this disease. I have faced obstacles in my attempts to obtain adequate information and treatment and I am determined to help others avoid those obstacles. With your help, we can make a difference and help save lives.

I understand that Congress has deferred decisions on fiscal year 2011 appropriations until the 112th Congress convenes in January. I am asking for your support and leadership in efforts to ensure adequate funding for the Department of Health and Human Services. My members want to make sure that grant and research programs related to hemochromatosis, which are administered by the Centers for Disease Control and the National Institute of Health, are not cut from the 2011 budget.

The Hemochromatosis Information Society has over 740 members and is the largest nonprofit Facebook Cause solely dedicated to promoting awareness of hemochromatosis. We are working in conjunction with the Iron Disorders Institute to notify our members and the general public about the potential cut in funding for hemochromatosis.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. I hope that you will be able to help in efforts to ensure adequate funding for the Department of Health and Human Services. Such legislation will help thousands of people in need. For more information about hemochromatosis you can visit our website at www.hemoinfo.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason Edwards", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jason Edwards
President