# Legislation to Address Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress

Dora Hughes, MD, MPH Health Policy Advisor Senator Barack Obama



 Political landscape in the Senate

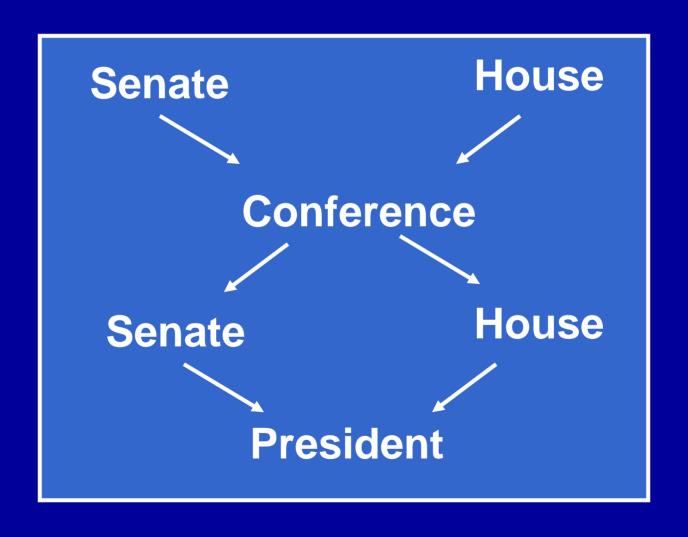
 Congressional minority health and health disparities agenda

## **Senate Health Committees**

- Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee
  - Chairman: Senator Kennedy (MA)
  - Ranking Member: Senator Enzi (WY)

- Finance Committee
  - Chairman: Senator Baucus (MT)
  - Ranking Member: Senator Grassley (IA)

## **Legislative Process**



- Coverage/Access
- Quality- Acute and Chronic Disease Care
- Prevention and Public Health

\*\*Education, environment, economic

#### Coverage/Access:

- SCHIP Reauthorization (ICHIA)
- Medicaid/Medicare
- Broader health insurance expansion bills
  - Health Partnership Act (Bingaman)
  - Healthy Americans Act (Wyden)
  - Universal Health Care Choice and Access Act (Coburn)

#### **Healthcare Quality:**

- Finance
  - Hospital quality reporting/P4P
  - Comparative effectiveness
  - Medicare Part B initiatives
  - Medical Home
- HELP
  - CHC reauthorization
  - Health IT (Wired)
  - RadCARE

#### Prevention and Public Health:

- Cross-cutting legislation
  - Healthy Communities Act, Healthy Places Act
  - Healthy America Act
  - FDA Regulation of Tobacco

- Disease specific bills
  - Lead Poisoning, Obesity, RWCA\*, PEPFAR\*

# 110th Minority Health

# Minority Health Improvement and Health Disparity Elimination Act (S. 1576)

- Education & Training
- Care & Coverage
- Research
- Data Collection, Analysis and Reporting
- Leadership, Collaboration and National Strategic Action Plan



What bills will pass in 2008?