



Sound Policy. Quality Care.

May 4, 2017

The Honorable Andy Barr
1427 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Cuellar
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: H.R. 1565 - Saving Lives, Saving Costs Act

Dear Representatives Barr and Cuellar:

As the Alliance of Specialty Medicine (Alliance), our mission is to advocate for sound federal health care policy that fosters patient access to the highest quality specialty care. As patient and physician advocates, the Alliance writes to thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 1565 the "Saving Lives, Saving Costs Act". This legislation provides an innovative and sensible approach to medical liability reform. It allows doctors to focus on practicing medicine and improves the quality of patient care by encouraging the use of evidence-based guidelines.

The legislation would provide a legal safe harbor for physicians who can demonstrate they followed recommended clinical practice guidelines developed by national or State medical societies or medical specialty societies. We note that the legislation would not preempt or supersede State or Federal laws. By reducing the necessary practice of defensive medicine and increasing adherence to evidence-based medicine this legislation has the potential to help lower health care costs while improving the quality of care for patients.

We look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American College of Mohs Surgery
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons
American Gastroenterological Association
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
American Society of Echocardiography
American Society of Plastic Surgeons
American Urological Association
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
National Association of Spine Specialists

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American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery • American Association of Neurological Surgeons
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American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association • American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery • American Society of Echocardiography
American Society of Plastic Surgeons • American Urological Association • Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations
Congress of Neurological Surgeons • National Association of Spine Specialists