



***Join the Fight Against Stroke –  
Co-sponsor the STOP Stroke Act (H.R 477)***

March 5, 2007

Dear Representative:

Stroke is our nation's No. 3 killer and a leading cause of serious, long-term disability. Each year, about 700,000 Americans experience a new or recurrent stroke – meaning on average that someone is having a stroke every 45 seconds. Today, more than 5.7 million Americans are stroke survivors and as many as 30 percent are permanently disabled, requiring extensive and costly care.

Stroke takes an enormous emotional and financial toll on stroke survivors and their families. The toll that stroke takes on our nation's financial health – in terms of direct medical costs and lost productivity – is also enormous. Stroke is estimated to cost the nation nearly \$63 billion in 2007. As the Baby Boomer population ages, stroke is projected to become an even greater problem. In fact, one study has estimated that the number of deaths from the most common type of stroke could double by the year 2030.

**We urge you to join the fight against stroke by becoming a co-sponsor of H.R. 477, the Stroke Treatment and Ongoing Prevention Act (STOP Stroke Act).** This vital legislation will help ensure that stroke is more widely recognized by the public and treated more effectively by health care providers. The legislation will help raise public awareness about stroke; provide critical resources to implement stroke care systems that improve the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of stroke; establish a clearinghouse to collect data and share best practices; and offer medical professional development programs in new stroke therapies.

To join our fight and become a co-sponsor of H.R 477, the STOP Stroke Act, please contact Amy Fisher with Representative Capps (5-3601) or Mary Mills Ritchie with Representative Pickering at (5-5031).

Sincerely,

**American Academy of Neurology  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Heart Association/American Stroke Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Society of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Genentech, Inc.  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors  
National Association of EMS Physicians  
National Association of State EMS Officials  
National Stroke Association  
Society of Interventional Radiology**