

March 18, 2004

The Honorable Judd Gregg  
United States Senate  
393 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Gregg:

On behalf of the 126 medical schools, nearly 400 major teaching hospitals, more than 105,000 faculty in 98 academic medical societies, and approximately 163,000 medical students and residents represented by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), I write to express the AAMC's support for the "Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2003" (S. 720). By establishing a voluntary medical errors reporting mechanism that encourages providers' full disclosure of information, your legislation will help assure that our nation's healthcare quality improvement initiatives are purposeful and effective.

Your legislation is particularly meaningful to the AAMC membership, which shares a common mission of improving patient care through medical education and research. The "Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2003" will help strengthen that mission by enhancing the quality of patient safety data and promoting a positive, interactive learning environment.

The AAMC applauds your insight and leadership in introducing the "Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2003," and welcomes the opportunity to work with your staff in achieving enactment of S. 720.

Sincerely,

Jordan J. Cohen, MD