



P.O. Box 19008
Washington, DC 20036-9008
TEL: 202-293-4255
www.hcla.org

April 2, 2004

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

Dear Senator Gregg:

The following members of the Health Coalition on Liability and Access (HCLA) urge Senators to vote "yes" for cloture when the Senate considers S. 2207, Pregnancy and Trauma Care Access Protection Act of 2004. The medical liability crisis that is affecting states across the country is making access for patients more difficult than ever before. We urge you to vote "yes" for cloture so that a meaningful debate can take place on the benefits of medical liability reform.

While the ultimate goal of our organizations is to pass a comprehensive federal medical liability reform law, S. 2207, limited to trauma and emergency services as well as obstetrical services, encompasses many of the essential reforms that have proven successful in California. These reforms ensure injured parties full compensation for medical and related expenses as well as lost wages, and also promote a speedy resolution of claims and direct monetary awards to the patient.

As we work for comprehensive federal medical liability reform, we will also work to refine the language regarding collateral source and subrogation. The HCLA is committed to working to pass meaningful medical liability reform.

Once again, the following members of the HCLA urge you to vote "Yes" on the cloture motion regarding S. 2207. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Christian Shalgian, HCLA Chairman at 202-672-1504.

Sincerely,

AdvaMed
Aetna
American Academy of Ophthalmology
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Benefits Council
American Clinical Laboratory Association
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons

American College of Surgeons
American Health Care Association
American Hospital Association
American Medical Association
American Medical Group Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Society of General Surgeons
American Society of Plastic Surgeons
America's Health Insurance Plans
Association of American Medical Colleges
Coalition for Reliable and Affordable Health Care
Federation of American Hospitals
Healthcare Leadership Council
Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania
Medtronic
National Association of Health Underwriters
Premier, Inc.
Property Casualty Insurers Association of America
VHA. Inc.