

June 27, 2017

United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the undersigned employer organizations and the members we represent, we urge you to support H.R. 1215, the Protecting Access to Care Act, a medical liability reform bill.

Our organizations represent large and small employers in all 50 states. Employers are the nation's largest providers of health care services, and we recognize our nation's challenges in controlling health care spending. There are currently over 177 million Americans who receive health care coverage from employers. Although the vast majority of employers offer health care coverage, most are concerned about the increasing cost of providing this benefit. One contributing factor to rising health care costs is health care providers who often perform unnecessary defensive medicine as a tactic to protect themselves against legal liability.

We support medical malpractice reforms that strike a balance between protecting patients harmed by medical malpractice and preventing unnecessary and costly litigation that contributes to rising health care costs. The reforms contained in H.R. 1215 will lead to reduced health care costs, preserve American's access to medical care and ensure that patients harmed by medical malpractice receive just compensation. Specifically, this bill provides for speedier resolutions to disputes, maintaining access to courts, maximizing patient recovery of damage awards with unlimited compensation for economic damages, while limiting non-economic damages to \$250,000. At the same time, H.R. 1215 protects existing, effective state medical liability reform laws.

We strongly support H.R. 1215 and urge you to vote "yes" when it is considered on the House floor.

Thank you in advance for your commitment to improve our nation's medical liability system.

Sincerely,

American Benefits Council  
HR Policy Association  
Society for Human Resource Management  
U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform  
US Chamber of Commerce