



The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions Foundation

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June 13, 2017

The Honorable Steve King
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative King,

On behalf of the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI), I am pleased to offer the society's strong support for HR 1215, the Protecting Access to Care Act of 2017.

SCAI is a non-profit professional association with over 4,500 members representing the majority of practicing interventional cardiologists and cardiac cath teams in the United States. SCAI promotes excellence in interventional cardiovascular medicine through education, representation and the advancement of quality standards to enhance patient care.

With widespread agreement that our nation's medical liability system is broken and does not serve the needs of our patients, the 115th Congress has the opportunity to make necessary reforms at the federal level that will reduce health care costs, preserve patients' access to medical care, and put an end to medical lawsuit abuse.

Mirroring the successful reforms of California and Texas, the Protecting Access to Care Act will ensure that physicians and health care providers are able to provide vital medical services to all patients without the threat of meritless lawsuits, and health care services will remain affordable and available to all.

The proven reforms contained in the Protecting Access to Care Act would help deserving patients by promoting a speedier resolution to claims and ensuring that damage awards go to deserving patients – not personal injury lawyers. For example, the legislation: limits attorney fees so that damage awards go to the patients in need; allows for the full and unlimited recovery of economic damages, including past and future medical expenses, lost wages, rehabilitation costs, etc.; and allows for the periodic payment of damages.

Finally, your legislation will implement reform at the federal level – protecting states' rights by preserving current and future liability reforms passed by individual states.

The Honorable Steve King

June 13, 2017

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Again, SCAI applauds you for your continuing leadership on medical liability reform and we look forward to working with you on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Garratt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "K" being particularly large and stylized.

Kirk N. Garratt, MD, MSc, FSCAI
SCAI President, 2017-2018

CC: Francesca Dea, CAE, SCAI
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