April 18, 2023

The Honorable Larry Bucshon, MD  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2313 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC  20515

The Honorable Raul Ruiz, MD  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2342 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC  20515

SUBJECT: Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act of 2023

Dear Representatives Bucshon and Ruiz:

On behalf of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), we are pleased to support the Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act and extend our offer to help advance this critical legislation.

Swift and timely medical response in a disaster can significantly decrease the loss of life and improve outcomes for patients who desperately need care. This bill will help ensure the availability of medical professionals to aid these patients by providing narrowly targeted liability protections to physicians who volunteer to assist victims of federally-declared disasters.

While neurosurgeons have a long history of stepping forward to assist disaster victims, medical volunteers are often turned away due to inconsistent Good Samaritan laws and confusion and uncertainty about applying these laws. Sadly, this lack of uniformity has hindered the ability of volunteer health professionals to provide care. Physicians often could not provide these critical services — even if they wanted to — due to a lack of liability protections. Your legislation will help ensure that neurosurgeons who volunteer in future disasters will not face similar uncertainties, allowing them to focus on providing aid to victims.

Thank you for your leadership in introducing the Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act. We look forward to working with you to move this important bill forward.

Sincerely,

Ann R. Stroink, MD, President  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  

Elad I. Levy, MD, President  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons

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