Neurosurgeons Commend House of Representatives for Passing Medical Liability Legislation

Bill will help reduce health care costs and preserve access to care

Washington, DC—The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) applaud the U.S. House of Representatives for passing H.R. 1215, as amended, the Protecting Access to Care Act. Sponsored by Rep. Steve King (R-Iowa), this legislation is based on proven state reforms that have improved the medical liability climate in these states. Additionally, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) reports that this comprehensive medical liability reform bill would save the federal government nearly $50 billion over ten years.

Organized neurosurgery endorsed the Protecting Access to Care Act. Additionally, the AANS and CNS joined the Alliance of Specialty Medicine and the Health Coalition on Liability and Access (HCLA) in supporting this legislation.

“The AANS and CNS have long supported legislation to provide common sense, proven, comprehensive medical liability reform that will help contain health care costs, stabilize liability insurance premiums and preserve access to specialty care,” said Ann R. Stroink, MD, FAANS, a neurosurgeon from Bloomington, Ill. and chair of the AANS/CNS Washington Committee. “We applaud the House for passing the Protecting Access to Care Act and encourage the Senate to do likewise as soon as possible.”

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The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS), founded in 1931, and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), founded in 1951, are the two largest scientific and educational associations for neurosurgical professionals in the world. These groups represent over 8,000 neurosurgeons worldwide. Neurological surgery is the medical specialty concerned with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of disorders that affect the entire nervous system, including the spinal column, spinal cord, brain and peripheral nerves. For more information, please visit www.aans.org or www.cns.org or www.neurosurgeryblog.org.