

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
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CONGRESS OF
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President
MITCHEL S. BERGER, MD
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President
ALI R. REZAI, MD
Columbus, Ohio

November 26, 2012

The Honorable Sue Myrick
U.S. House of Representatives
230 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tim Walz
U.S. House of Representatives
1722 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Field EMS Quality, Innovation, and Cost-Effectiveness Improvement Act

Dear Representatives Myrick and Walz:

On behalf of the Section on Neurotrauma and Critical Care of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), we would like to commend you for introducing H.R. 3144, the Field EMS Quality, Innovation, and Cost-Effectiveness Improvement Act of 2011. We recognize that H.R. 3144 would provide a path away from the systematic problems plaguing our nation's emergency medical services (EMS) and toward the vision outlined by the Institute of Medicine without adding to the federal deficit.

Establishment of a primary federal agency for EMS and trauma would significantly further the states' efforts to optimize emergency care in the field for our injured citizens through the establishment of the following grant programs and measures:

- Field EMS Excellence, Quality, Universal Access, Innovation and Preparedness (EQUIP) Grant Program
- Field EMS System Performance, Integration and Accountability (SPIA) Grant Program
- Field EMS Education Grants
- Physician developed Field EMS quality guidelines
- Models for access and delivery of Field EMS for patients
- Enhanced research in Field EMS.

We thank you for your leadership and look forward to working with you to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Shelly D. Timmons, MD, PhD, FACS, FAANS
Immediate Past Chair
AANS/CNS Section on Neurotrauma and
Critical Care

Geoffrey T. Manley, MD, PhD, FACS, FAANS
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