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March 18, 2016

The Hon. Tom Price, Chair  
House Committee on the Budget  
207 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Price:

We, as the leadership of the Health Coalition on Liability and Access (HCLA), would like to congratulate you on being named to the Health Care Reform Task Force, and commend you for your willingness to take on the difficult task which lies before you.

As you may be aware, the HCLA is a national advocacy coalition of associations and businesses representing a broad array of health care professionals and facilities, health care liability insurers, employers, and health care consumers. We are dedicated to reforming our medical liability system to increase patient safety, ensure that injured patients are compensated quickly and fairly, improve provider-patient communications, and foster an environment for affordable and accessible medical liability insurance.

In your role on the Task Force, we request that you include comprehensive, time-tested medical liability reforms in any proposal to address our nation's ongoing need for an improved health care payment and delivery system. Such reforms will improve access to care, enhance the patient-provider relationship, and provide billions in savings to the American taxpayer.

It has been many years since Congress has addressed comprehensive medical liability reforms and, as such, many of your colleagues may not be familiar with the positive effect such reforms can have on the health care system. In addition, while proven reforms must remain as the base of any medical liability proposal, changes to the medical liability environment over the last decade necessitate that adjustments be made to legislation which Congress has considered in the past. In this regard, we would like to request a meeting to discuss this issue with you and your staff so that we may provide you with the latest information on this issue and suggest strategies for addressing medical liability reform going forward.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request. We look forward to working with you to improve our nation's health care system.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Stinson, HCLA Chair  
*PIAA*

Katie Orrico, HCLA Vice Chair  
*American Association of Neurological Surgeons*

Catherine Boudreaux, HCLA Secretary  
*American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons*

## **HCLA Membership**

American Academy of Dermatology  
American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons  
American College of Cardiology  
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons  
American College of Surgeons  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Hospital Association  
American Insurance Association  
American Medical Association  
American Medical Directors Association  
American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Tort Reform Association  
American Urological Association  
Californians Allied for Patient Protection  
Cooperative of American Physicians  
COPIC Insurance Company  
The Doctors' Company  
Federation of American Hospitals  
MAG Mutual Insurance Company  
Medical Assurance Company of Mississippi  
Medical Insurance Exchange of California  
Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company  
Medical Protective Company  
National Association of Health Underwriters  
National Association of Spine Specialists  
NORCAL Mutual Insurance Company  
Physicians Insurance A Mutual Company  
PIAA  
Piedmont Liability Trust  
Premier health alliance  
ProAssurance  
State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company  
Texas Alliance for Patient Access  
Texas Medical Liability Trust