



**American Hospital
Association**

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March 21, 2012

Honorable Peter DeFazio
U.S. House of Representatives
2134 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative DeFazio:

On behalf of the American Hospital Association's (AHA) more than 5,000 member hospitals, health systems and other health care organizations, and our nearly 40,000 individual members, I am writing in support of your proposed legislation to expand health care coverage for American veterans.

Your legislation would expand eligibility for veteran reimbursement for emergency treatment provided in non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities. This would provide an important expansion of coverage until the ACA becomes fully effective and individuals are required to secure minimum essential health insurance coverage.

We look forward to working with you to make this legislation law so that patients need not worry about coverage issues when seeking emergency hospital care.

Sincerely,

Rick Pollack
Executive Vice President

