



**American Hospital
Association**

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April 29, 2014

The Honorable Rob Portman
448 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Portman:

On behalf of our nearly 5,000 member hospitals, health systems and other health care organizations, and our nearly 43,000 individual members, the American Hospital Association (AHA) is pleased to support the *Medical Care Access Protection Act of 2013* (S. 44).

The high costs associated with the current medical liability system not only harm hospitals and physicians, but also patients and communities. Across the nation, access to health care is being negatively impacted as physicians move out of states with high medical liability insurance costs or stop providing services that may expose them to a greater risk of litigation. The increased costs that result from our flawed medical liability system hinder access to affordable health care, and raise health care premiums and costs for everyone.

Your legislation is based on proven models of reform and, if enacted, would not only help patients and health care providers, but according to recent estimates from the Congressional Budget Office, would also deliver federal savings of more than \$50 billion over 10 years.

Again, we are pleased to support this legislation and appreciate your continued leadership on the issue of medical liability reform. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to achieve passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Rick Pollack
Executive Vice President

