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## Samaritan helps Inglis focus on rehab care

Congressman looking at better health coverage

*By Liv Osby*  
**HEALTH WRITER**

Travis Fortson is back at work. He's camping with his kids. He's sailing again.

The 32-year-old pharmaceutical sales rep is driving again, too, using his left foot instead of his right.

He's come a long way since losing his right leg after he was struck by a truck on Interstate 85 last July while helping another motorist on the side of the road. And he credits his medical care and rehabilitation with much of that progress.

On Monday, he stopped by Roger C. Peace Rehabilitation Hospital, where he spent several months as an outpatient, to tell 4th District U.S. Rep. Bob Inglis, R-Travelers Rest, that insurance should fully cover rehabilitation.

Inglis is traveling the district, talking to constituents about the nation's health-care system.

"I started thinking about all the patients who were having the same struggles," Fortson said. "I don't necessarily have an answer about what needs to be done."

He added that everyone should have the opportunity to be covered.

Emphasizing Fortson's progress, Inglis said insurance should cover rehabilitation.

"One of the strange things about our insurance system is once you're identified as having a need, the insurance companies try to withdraw," he said. "But what we see with Travis and other patients here is that's exactly when we need to see insurers come to the patient. What a wonderful success story. What we need is a health-care system that can deliver that level of rehab."

But in too many cases, he said, people are struggling because they didn't get the full range of care.

"Some people get left out of the provision of health care," Inglis said. "Figuring out a solution is going to be a real trick."

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