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RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

January 27, 2011

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

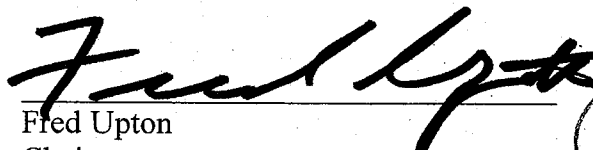
We were extremely encouraged by the inclusion of medical malpractice reform as part of your agenda in the State of the Union address. In the spirit of your remarks, we offer you our enthusiastic support in crafting bipartisan legislation to address this issue.

Medical malpractice reform has been at the top of the Republican health care reform agenda for many years. As far back as 2003, we brought common-sense legislation to the House floor which used the California model for tort reform. President Bush strongly supported that bill, but it unfortunately did not advance in the United States Senate. Had it been enacted, by now it would have given the country nearly a decade's worth of health care cost savings – hundreds of billions of dollars – and reduced federal entitlement spending.

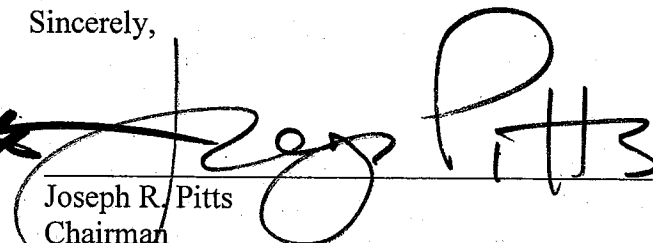
At your suggestion, we will make medical malpractice reform a priority in our work on health care matters this year. To assist us in that effort, we ask that your administration provide to us draft legislation that, if passed by Congress, you would be willing to sign. You have our commitment to work with you on a bipartisan basis through the legislative process.

The remarks in your address last night will hopefully give medical malpractice reform the jumpstart it needs to play a significant role in our mutual effort to reduce unnecessary costs in our health care system. We look forward to working with you and your administration to enact meaningful reform this year. We should not wait another decade.

Sincerely,



Fred Upton
Chairman



Joseph R. Pitts
Chairman
Subcommittee on Health

See Myrick Joe Barton

John Sullivan (OK) ~~Frank~~

Phil Dingey MD (Ga-11) ~~Longford~~ CO-4

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Bill Cassidy IL-19

Charles F. Bass Steve Scalise (LA01)

Doug Walker

[Signature]

Brian P. Gillman

Brett Guthrie

Pete Olson

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Ranking Member

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health