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Dear [Legislative Assistant],

As the chair of the Health Coalition on Liability and Access (HCLA), I'm writing to ask [Member of Congress] to cosponsor H.R. 2819, the *Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act*. This bipartisan legislation is critically needed to ensure that health care services are readily available during future health emergencies and disasters.

When disaster strikes, medical professionals stand ready to help, often while facing circumstances where information, supplies and communications are sorely lacking. Despite these difficulties, they are not only willing to help but to *volunteer* to face numerous risks in serving those who are most impacted by tragic circumstances. Inconsistencies in current federal and state laws, however, could subject medical *volunteers* who serve during disasters and large-scale emergencies to the risk of unjust medical liability lawsuits.

Fortunately, Congressmen Larry Bucshon, MD and Raul Ruiz, MD have introduced the *Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act* (H.R. 2819) to correct this problem. The bill provides medical volunteers with limited and targeted protections from liability during a federally-declared disaster, national emergency or public health emergency, and ensures that vital health care services often provided by medical volunteers remain available – all while respecting existing medical liability laws in individual states. In addition, to ensure that patients are protected, the bill only applies to licensed health care providers and does not apply to a health care provider if the harm caused was criminal or deliberate in nature.

The *Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act* will ensure that an adequate supply of trained health care professionals is ready, willing and able to volunteer their services during a crisis, and that they will not be deterred or turned away due to the threat of unjust lawsuits. Similar protections were enacted during the COVID-19 pandemic, but those were applicable only to that emergency. The time to pass protections applicable to future crises is now, *before* the next disaster strikes and medical volunteers are needed immediately. Representative Aderholt can help make this happen by supporting this critical legislation.

To become a cosponsor or learn more about the *Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act*, please contact Emily Mace (Emily.Mace@mail.house.gov) with Cong. Larry Bucshon, MD or Jame Truax (Jamie.Truax@mail.house.gov) with Cong. Raul Ruiz, MD.

If you have any questions about HCLA or our support for the *Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act*, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Mike Stinson, Chair

Health Coalition on Liability and Access

Organizations endorsing H.R. 2819 –

American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Surgeons
American Health Care Association
American Medical Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Society of Anesthesiologists
American Society of Plastic Surgeons
American Tort Reform Association
American Urological Association
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Cooperative of American Physicians
COPIC Insurance
Illinois State Medical Society
ISMIE Mutual
Medical Assurance Company of Mississippi
Medical Professional Liability Association
MIEC
MLMIC Insurance
National Association of Spine Specialists
Physician Association of California
Physicians Insurance A Mutual Company
Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medical Association
ProAssurance
SVMIC
Texas Alliance for Patient Access
Texas Medical Liability Trust
The Doctors Company