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April 16, 2009

Nicholas J. Jouriles, MD, FACEP
President
American College of Emergency Physicians
1125 Executive Circle
Irving, TX 75038-2522

Dear Dr. Jouriles:

On behalf of the Emergency Department Practice Management Association (EDPMA) I want to formally acknowledge our continued support for the "Access to Emergency Medical Services Act (AEMSA) of 2009" (H.R. 468/S.1188). As you know, EDPMA is a national trade association representing a broad range of emergency physician groups and their business partners, all of whom support the delivery of emergency medical care. Our mission is to advocate for quality patient care through operational excellence and financial stability.

EDPMA members understand that Emergency Departments are truly indispensable in our health care system. Every day our professionals deliver much-needed care and services to emergency patients, and also act as a critical health care "safety net." EDPMA has always supported legislation that prevents untoward reductions in the resources necessary to ensure quality emergency care. This commitment has never been more important, as ED visits continue to rise and physician availability dwindles.

Many physicians affiliated with EDPMA are also members of the American College of Emergency Physicians. We have long appreciated the positive working relationship between our respective organizations, and we look forward to working with you to secure passage of this important legislation.

Thank you for your efforts!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Pilgrim", is written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Randy Pilgrim, MD, FACEP
Chair, EDPMA Board of Directors

CC: Angela Gardner, MD
Dean Wilkerson
Gordon Wheeler