

September 9, 2019

The Honorable Richard Hudson  
2112 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: H.R.3656 – the Accessible Care by Curbing Excessive lawSuitS Act**

Dear Representative Hudson:

I am writing on behalf of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) in strong support of H.R.3656. ASPS is the largest association of plastic surgeons in the world, representing more than 7,000 members and 93 percent of all board-certified plastic surgeons in the United States. Our mission is to advance quality care for plastic surgery patients and promote public policy that protects patient safety. Our members are highly skilled surgeons who improve both the functional capacity and quality of life for patients, including treatment of congenital deformities, burn injuries, traumatic injuries, hand conditions, and cancer reconstruction.

Your championing of the *Accessible Care by Curbing Excessive lawSuitS (ACCESS) Act*, which will improve the current medical liability climate in the United States, is invaluable. Medical liability reform will help achieve health system savings by reducing the incentives for defensive medicine, and it will also protect physicians from unaffordable liability premiums. Medical liability reform efforts in states such as California and Texas have shown that changes to the medical liability standards can help improve access to health care for patients, reduce runaway insurance premiums, and create a stable, predictable liability system.

We believe that the *ACCESS Act* can help foster such a system nationwide.

ASPS appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on H.R.3656 and we look forward to working with you to advance this legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact Patrick Hermes, Director of Advocacy and Government Relations, at [phermes@plasticsurgery.org](mailto:phermes@plasticsurgery.org) or (847) 228-3331 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Alan Matarasso, MD, FACS  
President, American Society of Plastic Surgeons