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March 4, 2013

The Honorable Tom Price, MD
U.S. House of Representatives
100 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Dr. Price:

On behalf of the physician and medical student members of the American Medical Association (AMA), I am writing in support of H.R. 805, the "Quality Improvement Organization Program Restoration Act." This federal bill would restore and maintain local physician involvement in Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs) and keep the program state-based. A state-based approach better ensures that physicians' needs and pursuit of higher quality care for their patients are met. This bill would also support local physician involvement in peer review.

The "Quality Improvement Organization Program Restoration Act" improves QIO functions by requiring an integrated, collaborative approach among health care stakeholders at the local level. The approach called for in your legislation aligns with many new payment and delivery reform models being pursued today that also require a collaborative approach to help ensure the continuum of quality care.

We appreciate your leadership on behalf of physicians and look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim L Madara". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James L. Madara, MD