

MONTANA
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

2021 Eleventh Avenue • Helena, Montana 59601-4890

Telephone 1-406-443-4000 FAX 1-406-443-4042

Toll Free Intrastate 1-877-443-4000

<http://www.mmaoffice.org> e-mail: mma@mmaoffice.org

February 27, 2009

Friday

Tom Coburn, M.D.
U.S. Senator
172 Senate Russell Building
Washington, DC 20510

J. James Rowsey, M.D.
1334 Riverside Drive
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Dear Senator Coburn and Doctor Rowsey:

Thank you for your commitment to the political/legislative process in the interest of physicians. That you were willing to have Dr. Rowsey travel all the way from Florida to discuss physician concerns is a measure of your commitment. Your legislative initiative on health care reform addresses many of the concerns which we support. A few of the issues follow:

We support universal health care coverage.

We support anti-trust relief for physicians.

We support tort reform to include a health court.

We support development of a single national paperless medical record system.

We support greater regulation, transparency and uniformity of the health care insurance industry with movement toward a non-profit industry. A factor in the shift of physicians to a single payer preference is the corruption, dishonesty and unreasonable pay and bonus packages for executives.

We support a system of selective prioritization of health care services established and controlled by society (see Oregon).

We support a health care system that promotes individual freedom of choice and responsibility.

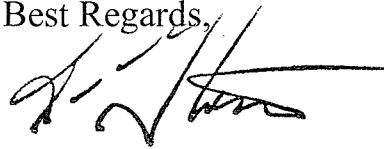
We support a health care system where quality measures come from health care providers.

Recognizing that a single payer system is not probable at this time and the urgent time frame for action, we support a multi-payer system with a non-profit regulated health insurance industry.

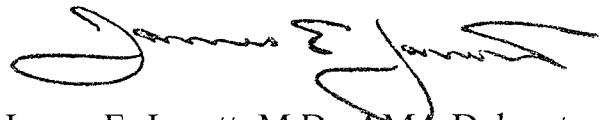
We urge replacement of the SGR.

Again, thank you both very much. We hope you might come to Montana for recreational purposes.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Stoner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kirk L. Stoner, M.D., President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James E. Jarrett", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

James E. Jarrett, M.D., AMA Delegate