

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4326

July 26, 2006  
Improve Trauma System Coordination  
Cosponsor H.R. 5555

Dear Colleague,

What would you think if someone you loved was in a car accident and didn't make it to the ER in time because the EMS system didn't work? Our emergency rooms serve as healthcare safety nets; they provide care in disasters and they take all comers, 24 hours a day, every day. They need our help to continue providing quality care for all Americans.

***Did you know?***

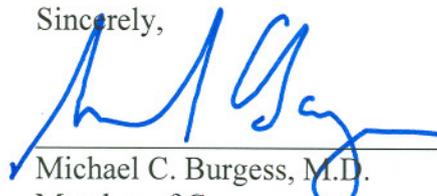
- Trauma is the leading cause of death of Americans between the ages of 1 and 44 years and is the third leading cause of death in the general population of the United States.
- The total cost of traumatic injury in the U.S., largely due to motor-vehicle related trauma, is estimated at \$260,000,000,000.
- Many areas of the U.S. do not have appropriate emergency medical services and many areas report large gaps in transportation coverage and lack of access to emergency nurses and doctors.

Please join us in solving this problem and **cosponsor H.R. 5555, the Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act of 2006.**

Through proper planning and preparedness, the number of trauma-related deaths can be reduced by improving emergency medical systems. H.R. 5555 will provide needed planning grants to state trauma systems to improve the coordination of emergency departments and bolster the safety net from point of injury through treatment.

**The Institute of Medicine has noted large gaps in our trauma care systems and the time to act is now.** Help bolster and improve emergency medical services by becoming a cosponsor of H.R. 5555 today. For more information, contact Kimberly Stump with Dr. Burgess' office at 5-7772 or [kimberly.stump@mail.house.gov](mailto:kimberly.stump@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

  
Michael C. Burgess, M.D.  
Member of Congress

**Cosponsors:** Gene Green [D-TX], Thomas H. Allen [D-ME], Michael Bilirakis [R-FL], Corrine Brown [D-FL], Sherrod Brown [D-OH], Lois Capps [D-CA], Eliot L. Engel [D-NY], Charles A. Gonzalez [D-TX], Bart Gordon [D-TN], Maurice Hinchey [D-NY], Jim Marshall [D-GA], Collin Peterson [D-MN], Mike Ross [D-AR], Henry A. Waxman [D-CA]