



## ASSOCIATION OF CRITICAL CARE TRANSPORT

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February 24, 2014

The Honorable Michael Burgess, MD  
The United States House of Representatives  
2336 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gene Green  
The United States House of Representatives  
2470 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Dr. Burgess and Representative Green:

The Association of Critical Care Transport (ACCT) writes to express our support for the “Trauma Systems and Research Reauthorization Act” which among other provisions would reauthorize the Trauma and Emergency Care Systems Grants through 2019. The programs are essential to ensure the coordination of trauma care delivery among trauma centers, ambulances, helicopters, state and local governments as well as implement and evaluate innovative models of regionalized emergency care systems.

ACCT is a non-profit grassroots patient advocacy organization committed to ensuring that critically ill and injured patients have access to the safest and highest quality critical care transport system possible. ACCT is comprised of air and ground critical care transport providers, business organizations, associations, and individuals all striving to provide our communities, hospitals and EMS partners in care, regulators, and policy makers with a path toward a safer and more trustworthy critical care transport system for patients. Our member organizations provide the entire spectrum of out of hospital services from 911 emergency ambulance response and specialty care transport services, to the most complex intra and interstate critical care medical transport. Together our members operate 570 medical helicopters, 50 fixed wing air ambulances, and 80 ground critical care units across more than 45 states.

Trauma is a major public health issue with an annual cost of \$67.3 billion which makes it the 3<sup>rd</sup> most costly medical condition in the United States. It affects over 35 million people annually and includes one traumatic hospitalization every 15 minutes. Reauthorization of the Trauma and Emergency Care Systems Grants is a critical step toward continuing and strengthening these important programs and ensuring patients have access to life saving trauma care.

ACCT appreciates your commitment to preserve access to trauma care and continues its support of the Trauma Systems and Research Reauthorization Act. As an Association representing ground and air services that provide critical care transport, our members know the importance of trauma systems and expediting patient care to designated trauma centers.

Should you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at 909-265-8345 or [kevin.stanhope@airmethods.com](mailto:kevin.stanhope@airmethods.com) or Miranda Franco with Holland and Knight at 202-469-5259.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Stanhope". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kevin" and last name "Stanhope" clearly legible.

Kevin Stanhope  
Chairman, Board of Directors