



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

October 16, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2322A Rayburn
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Pitts
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gene Green
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2322A Rayburn
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members of Congress,

We would like to express our support for H.R. 3014, the Medical Controlled Substances Transportation Act of 2015. The bill would authorize physicians, in agreement with the Attorney General, to transport controlled substances from a practice setting to another practice setting or disaster area.

Currently, the Controlled Substances Act of 1970 prohibits the transportation and storage of controlled substances away from the site of storage that is registered with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) making it illegal for team doctors to transport a limited quantity of critical medications that might be needed for pain control or emergency management of significant medical injuries while traveling with their teams. This is highly problematic for athletic team physicians who need the ability to maintain a limited supply of controlled substances for those instances where a player is injured during games that are away from home.

In emergencies or disasters when there is significant trauma it is critical that a physician have immediate access to controlled substances in order to adequately treat the patient. It should also be noted that these medications are registered and subject to inspection by the DEA at any time. We lend our full support to this important bill that will allow our physicians to provide the highest level of appropriate medical care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important measure that will allow the highest level of care for an individual injured in a practice setting other than the physician's own or in a disaster area.

Sincerely,

American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons

American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine

American Association of Neurological Surgeons

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Orthopaedic Trauma Association
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Ruth Jackson Orthopaedic Society
Scoliosis Research Society