February 12, 2014

The Honorable Michael C. Burgess, M.D.   The Honorable Gene Green
2336 RHOB                                     2470 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515                           Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressmen Burgess and Green:

On behalf of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) and our 33,000 members, I am writing to express ACEP's support for the "Trauma Systems and Regionalization of Emergency Care Reauthorization Act," and to thank you for your leadership on these important issues.

Emergency and trauma care are critically important to the health and well-being of Americans. In 2010, nearly 130 million visits were made to hospital emergency departments. About one-quarter of those visits were due to unintentional injury or poisoning. While most Americans encounter the emergency department or trauma center only rarely, they count on them to be there when those services are needed.

Reauthorizing the Trauma Care Systems Planning Grants and Regionalization of Emergency Care Systems will help ensure vital trauma and emergency care services continue to be available for patients when and where they are needed. The grants will also help expand access, improve quality and reduce costs within these systems.

Sincerely,

Alex M. Rosenau, DO, CPE, FACEP
President, ACEP