

February 26, 2008

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The Honorable Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor  
State of Washington  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Legislative Building  
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Governor Gregoire:

We both hope things find you well!

During the 2006 legislative session, we both worked very closely with you to arrive at an agreement on liability reform. Through your efforts in causing negotiations, the Washington State Medical Association (WSMA) and the Washington State Trial Lawyers Association (WSTLA) came to a historic agreement in the form of HB 2292. Because of you, we all made headway on the issue of liability reform.

Today, just two years from our agreement with WSTLA, we are fighting to stop HB 1873, which results in more liability exposure for physicians and government in the form of changes to the state's wrongful death statutes. From our vantage point, we think that HB 1873 opens old wounds and goes back on the compromise we reached in 2006.

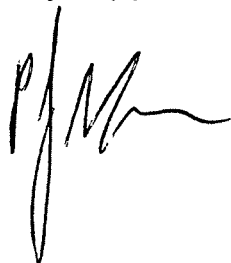
Governor, the existing laws on wrongful death are adequate and meet the needs of plaintiffs in our state. There is no compelling reason to expand liability by this legislation.

We would appreciate it if you could be brought up to speed on HB 1873 and tell the Senate to put this bill down for this session. We think such an action is consistent with our working together in 2006. Also, we would hope that if the bill reaches your desk you would veto it.

Should you need more information on this bill, please feel free to contact Cliff Webster on his cell phone at (206) 947-1312.

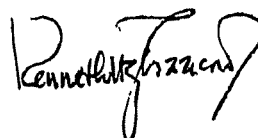
Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



Peter J. Dunbar, MD  
WSMA 2006 President  
Liability Reform Negotiator

Very truly yours,



Kenneth H.Z. Isaacs, MD  
WSMA 2005 President  
Liability Reform Negotiator