



September 2, 2010

Senator John Cornyn
517 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

On behalf of the American College of Rheumatology, I would like to share our support for the *Health Care Bureaucrats Elimination Act*. This legislation would repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board and prevent unaccountable bureaucrats from making health care decisions for seniors and their physicians.

As you know, the IPAB will mandate cuts to physicians Medicare payments. With the SGR battle threatening us each year, physicians can no longer afford to practice medicine with yet another risk of payment cuts through this independent commission. Containing health care cost is important, but not when risking patient access to care.

Again, the ACR commends you on your leadership in addressing the repeal of the IPAB and appreciates your support of issues affecting physicians and our patients. We look forward to working with you to ensure this legislation is passed to protect and ensure patient access to care.

If you have any questions, please contact the ACR's Government Affairs Director, Aiken Hackett, at (404) 633-3777 or ahackett@rheumatology.org for more information.

Sincerely,

Stanley Cohen, MD
President, American College of Rheumatology