



April 4, 2011

The Honorable Tom Price, MD
403 Cannon House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Dr. Price:

On behalf of the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS), a professional medical society composed of 3370 specialty-trained vascular surgeons and other medical professionals who are dedicated to the prevention and cure of vascular disease, we endorse your legislation, the Medical Practice Freedom Act of 2011, H.R. 969.

Your bill ensures that the federal and state governments cannot require health care providers to participate in a particular health plan as a condition of licensure. We strongly agree that licensure laws should only relate to requirements for admission to the practice of medicine and for the continuing competence of physicians.

If physicians were to lose their license as a result of choosing not to participate in a particular public or private insurance plan, they would be forced to leave the state or stop practicing altogether. The result would be a negative impact on patient access to care and creation of an even greater shortage of practicing physicians.

We thank you for everything you do that supports surgeons and look forward to working with you to secure passage of this legislation.

Sean P. Roddy, MD
Chair, Health Policy Committee
Society for Vascular Surgery

Robert M. Zwolak, MD
President
Society for Vascular Surgery