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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
THE AMERICAN JOURNAL  
OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

The Honorable Greg Ganske  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Ganske:

On behalf of the over 7,500 gastrointestinal specialists who are members of the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG), I am pleased to state our support for, and to provide the College's endorsement for the Bipartisan Patient Protection Act of 2001, H.R. 526. ACG is a physician organization of specialists in various aspects of the overall treatment of digestive diseases and conditions, which has chosen to focus its activities on clinical gastroenterology—the issues confronting the gastrointestinal specialist in treatment of patients. As an organization of clinicians, the patient protection issues which are at the heart of this legislation have been, and continue to be of the very highest priority for the College's members and the patients we treat on a daily basis.

The College is prepared to provide whatever assistance that we can in assuring that this legislation moves expeditiously toward enactment in the current Congressional session, and we hope you will call on us in that regard.

While ACG strongly endorses the Bipartisan Patient Protection Bill of 2001, we believe it will be extremely important to coordinate with President Bush and his administration to assure consistency toward arriving at an agreement with the President on a strong, bipartisan patient rights law.

Sincerely,



Rowen K. Zetterman, MD, FAGC

President

Annual Scientific Meeting and Postgraduate Course  
October 19 — 24, 2001, Venetian Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada