



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

June 5, 2013

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www.aaos.org/dc

The Honorable Peter Roskam
U.S. House of Representatives
227 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Carney
U.S. House of Representatives
1406 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Thomas Carper
U.S. Senate
Hart 513
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Coburn
U.S. Senate
Russell 172
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative's Roskam and Carney, Senator's Carper and Coburn:

On behalf of the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS), I would like to thank you for introducing the Preventing and Recovering Improper Medicare Expenditures (PRIME) Act. The bill seeks to reduce improper Medicare payments and improve data sharing and has the potential to save taxpayers billions of dollars. The AAOS, which represents over 18,000 board-certified orthopaedic surgeons, is committed fighting waste and fraud in our federal health care system.

Fraud analysts and law enforcement officials estimate between 3% and 10% of health care expenditures are lost annually to fraud. In addition, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services estimated that there was nearly \$48 billion in improper payments for Medicare and \$22.5 billion in improper payments in Medicaid (federal share) in FY 2010.

The PRIME Act provides a commonsense solution to system abuses and protects taxpayer dollars. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Williams, Senior Manager of Government Relations at 202-546-4430 or jwilliams@aaos.org.

Sincerely,

Joshua J. Jacobs, MD
President
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons

cc: Thomas C. Barber, MD, Chair, AAOS Council on Advocacy
Karen L. Hackett, FACHE, CAE, AAOS Chief Executive Officer
William R. Martin, III, MD, AAOS Medical Director