



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

April 25, 2022

The Honorable Pete Sessions
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Sessions,

On behalf of the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS), representing more than 39,000 surgeons and residents, I wish to express our support for H.R. 7259 the “Medical Controlled Substances Transportation Act of 2022.” We applaud your strong efforts to ensure traveling athletes and those who suffer injuries in a disaster area or rural location receive the best possible care from the physician in the best position to deliver that care.

As you know, the Controlled Substances Act of 1970 prohibits the transportation and storage of controlled substances away from the site of storage that’s registered with the Drug Enforcement Agency. This is highly problematic for athletic team physicians who need the ability to maintain a limited supply of medication for those instances where a player is injured during an away game. It also limits the ability of physicians seeking to travel to treat patients at a disaster site or rural area. Coordinating the time for local physicians to examine the patient and dispense the medication is not only difficult given often rigorous travel schedules, it is not conducive to delivering the best possible care for the patient.

Physicians need to be able to safely and securely prescribe and dispense controlled substances when medically appropriate. Your legislation accomplishes this by allowing traveling physicians, such as sports team doctors, to safely and legally transport controlled substances for a 72-hour period. The Medical Controlled Substances Transportation Act also clearly defines the rules for travelling physicians carrying and prescribing controlled substances, therefore, putting the patient’s safety first, while providing the necessary oversight to ensure that physicians carry these substances securely and responsibly.

I thank you for your leadership and introduction of Medical Controlled Substances Transportation Act of 2022. AAOS appreciates and recognizes your substantial efforts to advance this critical policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "F H Savoie MD". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Felix H. Savoie, III, MD, FAAOS

AAOS President

cc: Kevin J. Bozic, MD, MBA, FAAOS, AAOS First Vice-President

Paul Tornetta, III, MD, FAAOS, AAOS Second Vice President

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