



For Immediate Release

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**CBO Confirms: Medical Malpractice Reform Would
Cut Health Care Costs, Reduce Deficit**

Partisan Democrat Health Bills Fail to Address High Costs of Junk Lawsuits

Washington, D.C. – A [report](#) from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) today confirms that real reform to reduce frivolous medical lawsuits would cut health care costs and trim the deficit. Unfortunately, of the five partisan Democrat health care bills approved by committees in the Senate and House of Representatives, not one includes reforms to the country's flawed medical liability system.

“If we’re going to get serious about actually making health care more affordable, we need to reduce the number of junk lawsuits. Junk lawsuits are increasing health care costs for millions of Americans, but Democrats have refused to address this critical issue in any of their bills. The Democrats’ bills are actually going to increase health care costs for many Americans,” said Senator Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.).

“CBO has confirmed that meaningful malpractice reform would cut costs and reduce the deficit. It’s time to listen to the American people and enact real medical malpractice reform.”

According to CBO, enacting medical malpractice reform would cut health care costs by significantly reducing malpractice insurance premiums, which get passed onto patients in the form of higher costs. Reform would also curb the practice of defensive medicine, in which doctors order wasteful tests and treatments to cover liabilities. Reform would save 41 billion in taxpayer dollars spent on federal health care programs, like Medicare and Medicaid, and would reduce the deficit by \$54 billion over the first ten years.

The CBO report is available here: http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/106xx/doc10641/10-09-Tort_Reform.pdf.

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