

**United States Senate**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20510**

April 1, 2004

The Honorable Arlen Specter  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
184 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Specter:

We would like to express our strong support for increased funding for Title XII of the Public Health Service Act – specifically those provisions established under the **Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act** which authorizes grants to states to plan, implement, and develop statewide trauma care systems. We are requesting that the Subcommittee provide increased funding for this program for fiscal year (FY) 2005.

In light of current concerns regarding homeland security and emergency preparedness, it is critical that the federal government increase its commitment to strengthening Title XII programs governing trauma care system planning and development. Over the last three years, this program has been funded at \$3.5 million per year. We greatly appreciate the support given to this program. Yet, despite this investment, one-half of the states in this country are still without a statewide trauma care system. Clearly, we can do better in our efforts to respond to the goals put forth by the 1999 Institute of Medicine report, “Reducing the Burden of Injury” – particularly that Congress “support a greater national commitment to, and support of, trauma care systems at the federal, state, and local levels.”

Increased funding for Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development will complement the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security by assuring all states the needed resources to develop trauma care system plans and to implement these plans. Trauma systems are an integral component of our Nation’s public health infrastructure and our ability to respond to emergencies in our communities.

Trauma is the leading killer of young Americans up to age 44. While injury prevention programs have greatly reduced death and disability, severe injuries will continue to occur. Therefore, it is essential that every American have access to a trauma system that provides appropriate care as quickly as possible. Strong federal support for Title XII and the goals of the Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act will help those states and communities that are in need of solid infrastructure to provide effective and efficient care to severely injured patients.

We are aware of the difficult budget realities of the coming year, but respectfully urge that you support an increase for FY 2005 for Title XII programs promoting statewide trauma care systems.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Pat Roberts

  
Senator Jack Reed

**United States Senate**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20510**

April 1, 2004

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
123 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Harkin:

We would like to express our strong support for increased funding for Title XII of the Public Health Service Act – specifically those provisions established under the **Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act** which authorizes grants to states to plan, implement, and develop statewide trauma care systems. We are requesting that the Subcommittee provide increased funding for this program for fiscal year (FY) 2005.

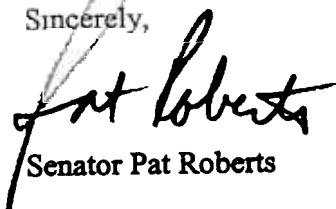
In light of current concerns regarding homeland security and emergency preparedness, it is critical that the federal government increase its commitment to strengthening Title XII programs governing trauma care system planning and development. Over the last three years, this program has been funded at \$3.5 million per year. We greatly appreciate the support given to this program. Yet, despite this investment, one-half of the states in this country are still without a statewide trauma care system. Clearly, we can do better in our efforts to respond to the goals put forth by the 1999 Institute of Medicine report, “Reducing the Burden of Injury” – particularly that Congress “support a greater national commitment to, and support of, trauma care systems at the federal, state, and local levels.”

Increased funding for Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development will complement the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security by assuring all states the needed resources to develop trauma care system plans and to implement these plans. Trauma systems are an integral component of our Nation’s public health infrastructure and our ability to respond to emergencies in our communities.

Trauma is the leading killer of young Americans up to age 44. While injury prevention programs have greatly reduced death and disability, severe injuries will continue to occur. Therefore, it is essential that every American have access to a trauma system that provides appropriate care as quickly as possible. Strong federal support for Title XII and the goals of the Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act will help those states and communities that are in need of solid infrastructure to provide effective and efficient care to severely injured patients.

We are aware of the difficult budget realities of the coming year, but respectfully urge that you support an increase for FY 2005 for Title XII programs promoting statewide trauma care systems.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Pat Roberts

  
Senator Jack Reed