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March 2, 2021

The Honorable Dutch Ruppertsberger
U.S. House of Representatives
2206 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adam Kinzinger
U.S. House of Representatives
2245 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Ruppertsberger and Kinzinger:

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) is pleased to endorse and offer our support for H.R. 1260, the *Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act of 2021*. This important legislation would increase funding to expand services and conduct research for hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIPs).

Violence is a major public health issue that disproportionately affects our most vulnerable populations as well as people of color, contributing to health disparities. The ACS Committee on Trauma (COT) verifies over 500 trauma centers in the U.S., which provide care for traumatic injuries including interpersonal violence. For survivors of violence, repeat injury is exceedingly common, with studies revealing approximately 30% are injured again in the future. However, violence prevention services have been shown to improve patients' recovery and decrease the risk of re-injury. HVIPs have demonstrated success and value by mitigating the risk factors associated with violence and significantly reducing violent injury recidivism.

The ACS knows that preventing injuries is less costly than treating them and therefore we strongly support H.R. 1260, not only as a way to prevent violent injury, but also as a step toward the reduction of health inequities. We thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

David B. Hoyt, MD, FACS
Executive Director