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December 2nd, 2020

The Honorable Terri Sewell
U.S. House of Representatives
2201 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David McKinley, P.E.
U.S. House of Representatives
2239 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Sewell and McKinley,

On behalf of the more than 82,000 members of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), I write in support of H.R. 5172, the *Non-Opioids Prevent Addiction in the Nation (NOPAIN) Act*. This legislation will incentivize the use of non-opioid alternatives and local infusion techniques used prior and during operative procedures, therefore allowing surgeons to improve pain control for their patients.

The use and abuse of both prescription and illicit drugs has increased dramatically in recent years and has become a major public health concern. Given the inherent risks of opioids, including dependence and other adverse drug events, surgeons have a responsibility to minimize their patients' postoperative pain while addressing the societal imperative to avoid overprescribing. There is strong support for the increased use of opioid alternatives, but the lack of financial coverage inhibits routine use. This legislation removes the financial barrier by raising the payment for non-opioid pain treatments.

ACS believes this legislation will improve patient safety, quality of care, and continue to counter the opioid epidemic. Thank you for your efforts and leadership on this issue, ACS strongly supports the *NO PAIN Act*.

Sincerely,

David B. Hoyt, FACS
Executive Director

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