



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

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October 10, 2017

The Honorable Michael Burgess
2336 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Debbie Dingell
116 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patrick Tiberi
1203 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Thompson
231 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Burgess, Dingell, Tiberi, and Thompson:

On behalf of the more than 84,000 members of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), I write to express our support for your legislation that would ease meaningful use requirements on physicians, H.R. 3120.

H.R. 3120 would amend the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act to remove an outdated requirement that directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to continue to make meaningful use (MU) standards more stringent over time. Increasingly stringent MU requirements that do not lead to improvements in patient care are unnecessary and unfair to both patients and providers. This provision could also increase the burden on HHS of processing an amplified number of hardship requests.

Removing the mandate that MU standards become more stringent over time will allow HHS to be more deliberative in measuring MU. Again, thank you for your leadership on this issue and we look forward to working with you as you further develop and advance this legislation.

Sincerely,

David Hoyt, MD, FACS
Executive Director