



Joseph H. Wehrle
President
Chief Executive Officer

May 7, 2014

The Honorable Bill Nelson
United States Senate
715 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Introduction of the "Stop Schemes and Crimes Against
Medicare and Seniors" (Stop SCAMS) Act

Dear Senator Nelson:

The National Insurance Crime Bureau is delighted to be able to support the Stop SCAMS Act's reaffirmation and strengthening of the Healthcare Fraud Prevention Partnership. The Partnership was jointly established last year by the Administration and the private sector as a critical element of the nation's fight against fraud in the delivery of healthcare and medical services. NICB is proud to be a founding participant of the Partnership and to serve on both its Executive Board and various implementing committees.

The Stop SCAMS Act will add immeasurably to the Partnership's effectiveness by having the Partnership's operations so clearly supported by new federal statutory authority. NICB is particularly supportive of the bill's carefully crafted language providing the Partnership's participating entities with a federal statutory structure for the sharing and use of fraud-related information and investigative activities. This statutory language is consistent with the Partnership's operating philosophy and with the law in many states governing insurance anti-fraud investigative procedures.

NICB is a not-for-profit organization and is the principal anti-fraud investigative arm of the property-casualty insurance industry, with its membership representing over 90% of the property-casualty auto insurance premium written annually. NICB has been a leader in developing anti-fraud investigative techniques, working closely with federal and state law enforcement agencies over many decades. Among property-casualty insurance lines, automobile insurance and workers' compensation are particularly vulnerable to medical fraud schemes. It is not unusual to see the same fraudsters who prey upon government healthcare programs and private health insurance also target auto and workers' compensation insurance. The American people deserve our best efforts to protect them from fraud.

The Partnership is the most comprehensive effort ever undertaken to bring together all the nation's public and private resources to protect the integrity of medical care and insurance. The Stop SCAMS Act's support for the Partnership will strengthen it and the anti-fraud program overall.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you would like to discuss further at (847) 544-7050.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Wehrle", is placed below the "Sincerely yours," text.

Joseph H. Wehrle, Lt. General USAF (Ret.)
President and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Andrea Buck, M.D., J.D. (via email)
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging