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HOUSE ACTION ON LIABILITY BILL
STRENGTHENS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

HARRISBURG (October 18, 2006) – The Pennsylvania Orthopaedic Society (POS) President Joshua Port, M.D. today praised the state House of Representatives for passing critical legislation to ensure patient access to quality bone, joint and muscle care by extending the state’s Mcare abatement program.

“Orthopaedic surgeons and their patients are grateful for the House’s action today to help enact meaningful medical liability legislation to strengthen our healthcare system,” Port, of Altoona, said. “Mcare abatement continues to be the critical component for long-term relief for physicians here facing Pennsylvania’s medical liability crisis.”

Senate Bill 972, which would extend the state’s Mcare Abatement Program through 2007, passed the House today by a unanimous vote. Without legislative action, the Mcare Abatement Program is due to expire December 31. The Senate passed the bill unanimously last month and the Governor is expected to sign the bill.

POS is a professional medical specialty organization representing more than 1,000 orthopaedic surgeons across Pennsylvania. For more information, visit the POS website at www.paorthosociety.org.

This year POS celebrates its 50th Anniversary ***"50 Years and Growing Stronger"*** with a series of public education materials and activities highlighting the excellence of orthopaedic medicine in Pennsylvania and the importance of bone, joint and muscle health at every age.

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