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## **OPPOSE AB 655 (HAYASHI)**

## OPEN LETTER # 2 TO ASSEMBLYMEMBER MARY HAYASHI 12 AUGUST 2011

You have already heard from physicians other than Dr. Rao who have run afoul of sham peer review at their hospitals.

You should understand that I know that their stories are true and correct because I have had to represent physicians at peer review hearings where attempts were made by a hospital administration to introduce false evidence into the hearing.

Because I was there as the physician's representative on behalf of the Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD), these efforts did not succeed. Unfortunately, AB 655 will breathe new life into efforts to insert sham peer review material into judicial and other peer review hearings. True peer review gets dishonored by such efforts.

Do you realize that the CMA is not experienced in representing physicians at such hearings whereas the UAPD has several times done exactly that? AB 655 reflects the interests of the California Hospital Association more than the interests of practicing physicians.

Your office has been reluctant to make needed changes probably because it's embarrassing to acknowledge errors late in the game. All the same, when physicians make mistakes, that's what is demanded of them. It should be the same for legislators.

Please include this letter in the legislative history of AB 655.

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