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## **GAMPAC SUPPORTS TORT REFORM LEADER FLEMING FOR CONGRESS**

ATLANTA – GAMPAC, the Medical Association of Georgia’s political action committee, has endorsed State Rep. Barry Fleming (R-Harlem) in his bid for Georgia’s 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

“The bottom line is that we wouldn’t have tort reform in Georgia today without Barry’s leadership,” says GAMPAC Chairman Ben Cheek, M.D. “He chaired the House committee that originally passed tort reform in 2005, and he helped staved off multiple legislative attempts to dilute the tort reform bill in 2007 and 2008.”

In addition to tort reform, Fleming has led the legislative charge for physicians in Georgia on a number of fronts, including...

- Uninsured. Fleming supported legislative measures like SB 383 and HB 977 to promote low-cost policies for basic health care.
- Certificate of Need (CON). Fleming voted for SB 433 to reform CON laws that restrict the development of physician-owned ambulatory surgery centers, procedural and imaging centers, and laboratory and ancillary services.
- Care Management Organization (CMO). Fleming has consistently supported CMO reform, especially the proper and prompt payment of physicians.
- Trauma Network. Fleming sought millions of additional dollars for the state’s trauma network on multiple occasions.
- Third Party Payers. Fleming has actively promoted the MAG-sponsored prompt pay bill in the state to address loopholes that let self-funded and private, third-party payers get around Georgia’s prompt payment statute.
- Medicare Reimbursement. Fleming has been at the forefront of opposing cuts in the Medicare reimbursement rates for physicians, which are down 40 percent in the last nine years. He has pledged to wage a comprehensive campaign to reverse this unfair and inappropriate trend.

“Barry has been an effective advocate for both physicians and patients,” says Cheek. “It’s imperative that we support him in his bid for the U.S. Congress if we hope to achieve our collective vision for health care in Georgia.”

GAMPAC is encouraging physicians to go to [www.barryfleming.com/contribute](http://www.barryfleming.com/contribute) and support Fleming with a campaign contribution of \$500, \$1,000 or up to the \$2,300 maximum allowable contribution for a primary election.