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**CENTER FOR JUSTICE & DEMOCRACY  
APPLAUDS SENATE DEFEAT OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LEGISLATION**

The Center for Justice & Democracy applauds the United States Senators for standing up for injured patients and against insurance companies today. In two consecutive votes, the Senate leadership failed to get even a majority to cut off debate on two bills that would have stripped patients of their legal rights and done nothing to help doctors who have been price-gouged by insurance companies.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, who has now brought up similar legislation four times in three years, each time bypassing the committee process and ending in stunning defeat, needs to stop forcing the Senate to vote on bills that would hurt patients while at the same time, benefiting his family's hospital and insurance business, HCA/HCI.

We hope this is the last time Senator Frist wastes the Senate's – and the country's – time with special interest legislation that the public does not want just to score political points with his health care and insurance industry-contributors.

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