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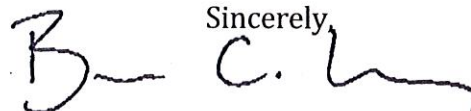
Ms. Jacqueline Kurth
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Ms. Kurth:

I reviewed the Staff Recommendations and Request for Public Comment from the ICA's Medical Resource Office.

I would ask the ICA to consider the diminution in the quality of medical services that may accompany a decrease in reimbursements for orthopedic surgeons. We have some great surgeons in the WC space. If those surgeons, who are fluent in the language of Arizona workers' compensation practice and procedure, decide to leave the WC space, I fear that vacuum might be filled by practitioners who may not have the same experience in treating injured workers and working within the Arizona system. I would like to elaborate, but I'm writing this letter on short notice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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BAW/kq

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