



**For Immediate Release**

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**Contact:**

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**CAPP Names New Executive Director**

**SACRAMENTO** – Californians Allied for Patient Protection (CAPP) has named Lisa Maas as its new Executive Director. CAPP is the only broad-based organization dedicated solely to protecting access to care and patient safety through California’s landmark Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act of 1975 (MICRA). Its members and supporters include physicians, dentists, hospitals, health facilities, community clinics, doctor-owned liability carriers, nurses and other health care professionals.



“Lisa has vast experience with MICRA and related issues, excellent management and strategic abilities and a demonstrated commitment to CAPP’s mission,” said Peter DuBois, CAPP Board Chair. “We are confident in her ability to strengthen and lead this organization and to promote its mission of protecting patient access to medical care.”

Maas has 20 years of experience in the legal arena with particular expertise in litigation, legislation, insurance, corporate law and board governance. She spent the last 15 years of her career with the California Dental Association, acting most recently as its chief legal officer and Vice President. Maas earned her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley and her law degree from the University of Southern California. She has served as a CAPP board member since the organization’s inception in 1991.

“For three decades, MICRA has worked successfully to promote quality medical care for consumers, to protect the rights of those who have been negligently injured, and to ensure that medical malpractice insurance is available at realistic and affordable rates,” said Maas. “I look forward to working with our coalition partners and board members to encourage continued support for MICRA and the critical role it plays in providing affordable access to health care, particularly for California’s underserved populations.”

Passed in 1975, MICRA has become a national model, cited by economists, patient advocates, doctors and others as the gold-standard example for national liability reform. A series of recent studies conducted by former Legislative Analyst William Hamm and a team of economists demonstrated that MICRA is responsible for reducing professional liability insurance rates – even as costs for all other forms of insurance have increased. The studies further concluded that lifting the MICRA cap would cause professional liability insurance rates to soar, cause doctors to avoid necessary, but high risk, procedures and, in some cases, force doctors to quit practicing altogether.

<http://www.micra.org/MICRAHandbook.pdf>

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