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Letter-to-the-editor

RE: *Denver Post* - "The importance of tort reform to bring down health care costs"

## **Abolishing Constitutional Rights Does Not Save Money**

First, *The Denver Post* prints these headlines: "Drug-addicted, dangerous and licensed for the operating room;" "First individual lawsuit filed over hep-C-infected needles;" and "2 women treated by Vail doctor for multiple sclerosis for up to 8 years didn't have the disease, lawsuit says."

Then, Mario Nicolais who works for a senior community management company wants to protect negligent medical providers, abusive nursing homes and careless drug companies. He trivializes the healthcare problem.

According to *The Journal of Patient Safety*, preventable medical errors are the third leading cause of death. Forty-eight states have medical malpractice tort reform measures. Research proves it does not reduce healthcare costs. If you are injured or killed by medical negligence, these measures only cut off your ability to obtain justice.

When no one is accountable, no one is safe. During this debate, we must focus on patient safety.

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*The Colorado Trial Lawyers Association (CTLA), the largest specialty bar association in the state, protects consumer rights and works to increase public safety. CTLA is comprised of Colorado trial lawyers who are committed to the protection and advancement of trial advocacy skills, high ethical standards and professionalism in the ongoing effort to preserve and improve the American system of jurisprudence.*