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## Tort Reform: Per CBO Will Not Significantly Decrease Costs of Healthcare



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Part of the debate about health care reform includes the major insurance companies' efforts to put artificial caps on the damages awarded to the most severely injured citizens who have valid claims for medical negligence.

However, the nonpartisan [Congressional Budget Office](#) estimated last year that savings achieved by limiting medical liability would amount to less than 0.5 percent of health care spending. In addition, the office studied states with their own controls on medical lawsuits. It found no proof that those limits have reduced "defensive medicine" -- expensive and unnecessary tests and procedures ordered by a doctor only to reduce the risk of a lawsuit.

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