

M. KATHLEEN BELTON, M. D. INC..

**639 FERNWOOD DRIVE
OXNARD, CALIFORNIA 93030**

(805) 486-8841

October 24, 1976.

"Voice of the People" Column,
Oxnard Press-Courier,
300 West Ninth St.,
Oxnard, CA 93030.

Dear Sir:

With regard to the "Candidates' Forum" in your Sunday October 24 paper, Mr. Imbrecht seems quite ignorant of current medical liability insurance legislation. AB 2939 ("the Berman Bill") which would have created a statewide medical liability insurance fund, did not pass, as Mr. Imbrecht is quoted as saying. It died in the Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee of the Senate a couple of months ago. Jane Tolmach is obviously well aware of this.

The bill that was enacted recently is the Chel Bill, AB 1898, which permits the formation of interinsurance or interindemnity or reciprocal contracts among physician members of a cooperative corporation to pay medical liability claims of its members. This may be of some help to some doctors, but is not a solution ^{to} the medical liability or "malpractice" situation, which remains unsolved. As a doctor, who knows how badly the quantity and cost of medical care is being affected in California by our medicolegal climate, I worry about any candidate for State Assembly who is so ignorant of the facts, especially one who himself is an attorney.



M. Kathleen Belton, M.D.

Jane - Dear Jane:
Thought this letter to the Editor might help to swing a few votes. I've got hepatitis now and am confined to the house; not a bad case, but it makes you tired. Don't know when the doctor will let me out, perhaps this week. Don't waste time calling or writing; it's too close to the wire. Good luck and I'll talk to you after the election. Is there to be a victory celebration? If so, and I'm well enough, I would like to come. I voted absentee in case I didn't make it to the polls.

