



Sound Policy. Quality Care.

November 13, 2024

The Honorable Greg Murphy, MD
407 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Panetta
304 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks, MD
1034 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ami Bera, MD
172 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Larry Bucshon, MD
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Raul Ruiz, MD
2342 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Joyce, MD
152 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kim Schrier, MD
1110 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support of H.R. 10073, the *Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act of 2024*

Dear Representatives Murphy, Panetta, Miller-Meeks, Bera, Bucshon, Ruiz, Joyce, and Schrier:

As patient and physician advocates, the Alliance of Specialty Medicine (Alliance) writes in support of your legislation, **H.R. 10073 the *Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act of 2024***, which would eliminate the upcoming 2.8% Medicare physician fee schedule cut and provide an inflationary update for calendar year 2025.

The Alliance represents more than 100,000 specialty physicians and is deeply committed to improving access to specialty medical care through the advancement of sound health policy. The Alliance urges Congress to take immediate steps to stabilize Medicare physician reimbursements as proposed in the *Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act of 2024*. Additionally, we appreciate your acknowledgement that a permanent solution is necessary to address the systemic issues with the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS).

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American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery • American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
American Association of Neurological Surgeons • American College of Mohs Surgery • American College of Osteopathic Surgeons
American Gastroenterological Association • American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association
American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery • American Society of Echocardiography • American Society of Plastic Surgeons
American Society of Retina Specialists • American Urological Association • Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations
Congress of Neurological Surgeons • National Association of Spine Specialists • Society of Interventional Radiology

As you know, Medicare physician reimbursement has failed to keep pace with rising inflation, leading to inadequate reimbursement. The Alliance is reassured that your legislation seeks to address impending cuts to reimbursement to ensure financial stability and predictability.

The layers of cuts imposed on physicians due to the applicable statutes create immense challenges in maintaining solvent practices, retaining and recruiting qualified staff, and ensuring patient access to health care. Because of the year-over-year reductions in Medicare reimbursements over the past several years, more and more physician practices have been forced to take drastic measures, such as limiting the number of Medicare patients they see, consolidating with larger hospital or health care systems, which increases costs to the Medicare program, or retiring early and permanently closing their doors.

We greatly appreciate your leadership on this important issue and look forward to working with you to address this serious problem and strengthen the Medicare program and patient access to providers.

Sincerely,

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