December 15, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy,

We write to request your support for policies to address impending Medicare payment cuts in legislation moving through the U.S. House of Representatives before the end of the year. We offer our assistance in finding a solution in order to ensure continued and robust access to care for American seniors.

Health care providers are facing unprecedented burnout and turnover emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic, a major concern of the U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy. We are concerned that severe, impending reductions to Medicare payments will result in hiring freezes, elimination of services provided to seniors, and decreased patient access to health care services, especially following a year of record high inflation.

We are particularly concerned about the impact of Medicare cuts in rural and underserved communities. With an ongoing health care workforce shortage, American communities cannot afford to experience practice closures. Uncertain payment rates will only lead to physicians closing their doors and enhance the existing barriers to care these patients already face, exacerbating poorer quality of life for seniors.

We appreciate the work Congress has historically done to alleviate payment cuts for providers and recognize that Congress must again act before the end of the year to address looming cuts.

We look forward to working with you on both responsible short-term payment solutions and long-term improvements. Attention to overarching payment reforms will be essential in fulfilling Medicare’s promise to current seniors and future generations. Policies that address physician payment stability in the immediate future and beyond will be critical to the continued success of the Medicare program.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued leadership.

Sincerely,
Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress

Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress

Earl L. “Buddy” Carter
Member of Congress

Jefferson Van Drew, D.M.D.
Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

Ronny L. Jackson, M.D.
Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress

Brad R. Wenstrup, DPM
Member of Congress

Diana Harshbarger
Member of Congress

Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress

Mike Simpson
Member of Congress

A. Drew Ferguson IV
Member of Congress

Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.
Member of Congress

Mariannette J. Miller-Meeks
Member of Congress
Eric A. “Rick” Crawford
Member of Congress

Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress

Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress

Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress

John Rose
Member of Congress

Greg Pence
Member of Congress

John R. Carter
Member of Congress

Julia Letlow
Member of Congress

Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress

Michelle Steel
Member of Congress

Jack Bergman
Member of Congress

Richard Hudson
Member of Congress

Lance Gooden
Member of Congress

Troy Balderson
Member of Congress
Mayra Flores  
Member of Congress

Glenn “GT” Thompson  
Member of Congress

Debbie Lesko  
Member of Congress

Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress

Kelly Armstrong  
Member of Congress

Austin Scott  
Member of Congress

Lloyd Smucker  
Member of Congress

Michael Guest  
Member of Congress

Pat Fallon  
Member of Congress

David G. Valadao  
Member of Congress

John H. Rutherford  
Member of Congress

Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress

Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress

Tim Burchett  
Member of Congress