Dear President Biden, Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Minority Leader McCarthy:

We write today as a bipartisan group of lawmakers urging you to act quickly to prevent the more than 8 percent cut in Medicare reimbursement that will directly impact patients in this country. Reducing Medicare payments by more than 8 percent, which comes on the heels of the 2 percent sequestration cut resuming earlier this year, would directly harm our nation’s medical groups, physicians, hospitals, and other health care providers who care for our communities.

As you know, in addition to the 2 percent Medicare sequestration cut that went into full effect in July, these drastic reimbursement reductions are being driven by the 4 percent Statutory Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO) requirement and the 4.47 percent cut to the Medicare conversion factor which affects many health care providers, including physicians. Compounded by workforce shortages, increased costs and supply chain issues, and the ongoing ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic, these cuts will impact the ability of providers to care for their patients. In fact, we have heard from provider organizations that if these additional Medicare cuts are not prevented, medical groups and integrated systems of care would be forced to eliminate services, furlough staff, implement hiring freezes, and delay population health initiatives. Congress must ensure that Medicare providers continue to have the necessary financial support to care for our nation’s seniors who rely on Medicare.
Providers will face cuts of more than 10 percent to Medicare payments on Jan. 1, 2023, which includes the 2 percent sequestration policy already in effect. We are opposed to paying for preventing these cuts with additional provider cuts. The combination of skyrocketing expenses, significant staffing shortages and looming cuts to Medicare payments will only make a bad situation far worse – especially for seniors in rural and underserved areas who continue to face health care access issues. Physicians, in particular, do not receive inflationary updates in the Medicare program and, as a result, we urge Congressional intervention to prevent the entirety of these cuts. Anything short of this is still a cut that hurts providers and the patients that they treat. We appreciate your attention to this critical issue and look forward to working together to ensure these cuts are prevented.

Sincerely,

Susan Wild
Member of Congress

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress

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

Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster  
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Member of Congress

Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress

Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress

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Trent Kelly  
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Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress

Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress

Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress

Kathy E. Manning  
Member of Congress
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Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress

John Joyce, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
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G. K. Butterfield  
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Ilhan Omar  
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David B. McKinley, P.E.  
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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress

CC: Chairwoman Murray, Chairman Wyden, Chairman Neal, and Chairman Pallone