

November 29, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Republican Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Republican Leader  
U.S. Senate

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders Schumer, McConnell, and McCarthy:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, representing over *one million* physician and non-physician health care providers, thank you for your ongoing support for Medicare beneficiaries and the health care provider community. Congress' commitment to ensuring greater stability within the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) for calendar year (CY) 2021, via a 3.75% payment adjustment for all services, avoided significant disruptions to care for Medicare beneficiaries and provided a lifeline for health care providers as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to stress the healthcare delivery system.

Unfortunately, this temporary measure did not address the ongoing structural problems with the MPFS, and the provider community is again bracing for steep cuts in 2022, which could result in many beneficiaries losing timely access to essential health care services. **To avoid this scenario, Congress must act before the end of the year to extend the 3.75% payment adjustment through at least CY 2022.**

Our organizations would welcome the opportunity to work with Congress to address long-term challenges associated with Medicare payment policy, especially the budget neutrality provision in the MPFS that has precipitated these steep cuts. The undersigned groups have been encouraged by ongoing discussions with congressional leadership and staff, who acknowledged the need to maintain and address payment stability for physician and non-physician providers who serve older Americans.

Further acknowledging this issue's urgency and critical nature, nearly 250 bipartisan House members signed a "Dear Colleague" letter (finalized October 2021) — spearheaded by Reps. Ami Bera, MD (D-CA) and Larry Bucshon, MD (R-IN) — calling on Congress to take action to avert these and other automatic Medicare payment cuts before the end of the year. Following the release of the Calendar Year 2022 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule that indicated the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will allow this payment adjustment to expire at the end of 2021, Reps. Bera, MD and Bucshon, MD ultimately introduced H.R. 6020, bipartisan legislation to extend the 3.75% update to the conversion factor for an additional year. Millions of seniors rely on the Medicare program, and we must work to ensure it remains a robust and dependable option for those who need it the most.

**With the legislative calendar waning, we urge Congress to make a critical investment in the nation's health care delivery system by embracing swift action to address the imminent cuts to Medicare payments by extending the 3.75% payment adjustment through at least CY 2022.** Maintaining this level of funding will provide much-needed stability for physician and non-physician

providers, as well as their patients, and provide an opportunity for renewed discussions regarding long-term systemic reforms in the New Year. We remain committed to partnering with Congress to identify and advance these critical reforms and appreciate your continued support of the health care providers on whom older Americans rely.

Sincerely,

**National Organizations**

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
Alliance for Physical Therapy Quality and Innovation  
Alliance for Recovery Care  
Alliance of Specialty Medicine  
Ambulatory Surgery Center Association  
AMDA - The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine  
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
American Academy of Audiology  
American Academy of Dermatology Association  
American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Home Care Medicine  
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology  
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology  
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons  
American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy  
American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery  
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
American Academy of Sleep Medicine  
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases  
American Association for the Surgery of Trauma  
American Association of Clinical Endocrinology  
American Association of Clinical Urologists  
American Association of Hip & Knee Surgeons  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology  
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons  
American Chiropractic Association  
American Clinical Neurophysiology Society  
American Cochlear Implant Alliance  
American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
American College of Cardiology  
American College of Chest Physicians  
American College of Emergency Physicians  
American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons  
American College of Gastroenterology  
American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics

American College of Mohs Surgery  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American College of Osteopathic Internists  
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Radiology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Surgeons  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living  
American Medical Association  
American Medical Group Association  
American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association (AMRPA)  
American Medical Society for Sports Medicine  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry  
American Optometric Association  
American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Podiatric Medical Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery  
American Society for Radiation Oncology  
American Society for Surgery of the Hand  
American Society of Addiction Medicine  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery  
American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons  
American Society of Echocardiography  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Neuroradiology  
American Society of Nuclear Cardiology  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Society of Retina Specialists  
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association  
American Urogynecologic Society  
American Urological Association  
American Vein & Lymphatic Society  
American Venous Forum  
Association for Clinical Oncology  
Association for Quality Imaging

Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Black Cardiologists  
CardioVascular Coalition  
Clinical Social Work Association  
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations  
College of American Pathologists  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Dialysis Vascular Access Coalition  
Digestive Health Physicians Association  
Emergency Department Practice Management Association  
Endocrine Alliance  
Endocrine Society  
Healthcare Nutrition Council  
Heart Failure Society of America  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Infusion Providers Alliance  
International Society for Advancement of Spine Surgery  
Large Urology Group Practice Association  
Medical Group Management Association  
NANOS (North American Neuro Ophthalmology Society)  
National Assoc of Rehab Providers & Agencies  
National Association for the Support of Long Term Care (NASL)  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Association of Spine Specialists  
National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy  
Obesity Medicine Association  
Outpatient Endovascular and Interventional Society  
Physicians Advocacy Institute  
Private Practice Section of the American Physical Therapy Association  
PTPN  
Radiology Business Management Association  
Renal Physicians Association  
Society for Cardiovascular Angiography & Interventions  
Society for Vascular Surgery  
Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons  
Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Gynecologic Oncology  
Society of Interventional Radiology  
Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery  
Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging  
Spine Intervention Society  
The American Society of Breast Surgeons  
The American Society of Dermatopathology  
The American Society of General Surgeons  
The Fibroid Coalition  
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons  
The Society of Trauma Nurses  
Trauma Center Association of America

## United Specialists for Patient Access

### **State Organizations**

Alabama Cancer Congress  
Alabama Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Alaska Oncology and Hematology, LLC  
Arizona Ambulatory Surgery Center Association  
Arizona Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Arizona Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery Society  
Arkansas Medical Society  
Arkansas Rheumatology Association  
Association of Northern California Oncologists  
California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology  
California Medical Association  
California Society of Dermatology & Dermatologic Surgery  
Cardiology Elite PC  
CardioVascular Consultants of Montana PLLC  
Colorado Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Colorado Dermatologic Society  
Colorado Medical Society  
Commonwealth Neurological Society  
Connecticut Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Connecticut Oncology Association  
DC Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Delaware Cardiovascular Associates  
Delaware Society for Clinical Oncology  
Denali Oncology Group  
Dermatological Society of New Jersey  
Empire State Hematology & Oncology Society  
Florida Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Florida Society of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery  
Georgia Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Georgia Neurological Society  
Georgia Society of Clinical Oncology (GASCO)  
Great Lakes Society of Diabetes and Endocrinology  
Hawaii Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Hawaii Medical Association  
Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology  
Healthcare Nutrition Council  
Idaho Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Idaho Medical Association  
Idaho Society of Clinical Oncology  
Illinois Ambulatory Surgery Center Association  
Illinois Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Illinois Dermatological Society  
Illinois State Medical Society  
Illinois State Neurological Society  
Indiana Academy of Dermatology  
Indiana Chapter, American College of Cardiology

Indiana Federation of Ambulatory Surgical Centers  
Indiana Neurological Society  
Indiana Oncology Society  
Iowa Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Iowa Neurological Association  
Iowa Oncology Society  
Kansas Chapter, American College of Radiology  
Kansas Society of Clinical Oncology  
Kentucky Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Kentucky Medical Association  
Kentucky Society of Clinical Oncology  
Louisiana Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Louisiana Oncology Society  
Louisiana Urological Society  
Maine Medical Center  
Maryland Ambulatory Surgery Association  
Maryland American College of Cardiology Advocacy Group  
Maryland Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Maryland Dermatologic Society  
Maryland Oncology Hematology  
Massachusetts Academy of Dermatology  
Massachusetts Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Massachusetts Medical Society  
Massachusetts Society of Clinical Oncologists  
MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society  
Medical Association of Georgia  
Medical Association of the State of Alabama  
Medical Oncology Association of Southern California  
Medical Society of Delaware  
Medical Society of New Jersey  
Medical Society of the State of New York  
Michigan Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Michigan Dermatological Society  
Michigan Neurological Association  
Michigan Society of Hematology and Oncology  
Minnesota Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Minnesota Medical Association  
Minnesota Society of Clinical Oncology  
Mississippi Dermatologic Society  
Mississippi Oncology Society  
Mississippi State Medical Association  
Missouri Ambulatory Surgery Center Association  
Missouri and Kansas Neurological Society  
Missouri Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Missouri Oncology Society  
Missouri State Medical Association  
Montana Academy of Dermatology  
Montana Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Montana State Oncology Society

Nebraska Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Nebraska Dermatologic Society  
Nebraska Medical Association  
Nebraska Neurological Society  
Nebraska Oncology Society  
Nevada Heart and Vascular Center  
Nevada Oncology Society  
New England Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
New Jersey Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
New Mexico Society of Clinical Oncology  
New York Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
New York State Society of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery  
North Carolina Dermatology Association  
North Carolina Medical Society  
North Carolina Neurological Society  
North Carolina Oncology Association  
North Dakota Medical Association  
Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society  
Ohio Association of Ambulatory Surgery Centers  
Ohio Association of Rheumatology  
Ohio Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Ohio Hematology Oncology Society  
Ohio River Region Society of Endocrinology  
Ohio State Medical Association  
Oklahoma Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc.  
Oregon Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Oregon Dermatologic Society  
Oregon Medical Association  
Oregon Society of Medical Oncology  
Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology  
Pennsylvania Ambulatory Surgery Association  
Pennsylvania Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Pennsylvania Neurological Society  
Pennsylvania Society of Oncology & Hematology  
Rheumatology Alliance of Louisiana  
Rheumatology Association of Iowa  
Rhode Island Dermatology Society  
Rhode Island Medical Society  
Rhode Island Neurological Society  
Rocky Mountain Oncology Society  
Society of Utah Medical Oncologists  
South Carolina Oncology Society  
South Dakota Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
South Dakota State Medical Association  
Tennessee Chapter of the American College of Cardiology  
Tennessee Dermatology Society  
Tennessee Medical Association  
Tennessee Oncology Practice Society  
Tennessee Rheumatology Society

Texas Ambulatory Surgery Center Society  
Texas Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Texas Dermatological Society  
Texas Medical Association  
Texas Neurological Society  
Texas Society of Clinical Oncology  
The Arizona Clinical Oncology Society  
The Medical Oncology Society of New Jersey  
Utah Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Vermont Medical Society  
Virginia Association of Hematology Oncology  
Virginia Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Virginia Dermatology Society  
Virginia Urological Society  
Washington Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Washington State Medical Oncology Society  
Washington State Neurological Society  
West Virginia Oncology Society  
West Virginia State Medical Association  
Wisconsin Association of Hematology and Oncology  
Wisconsin Chapter American College of Cardiology  
Wisconsin Medical Society  
Wisconsin Neurological Society  
Wyoming Chapter, American College of Cardiology  
Wyoming State Oncology Society

Cc:

U.S. Senate

U.S. House of Representatives