



Sound Policy. Quality Care.

September 29, 2022

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

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

Re: Support of **H.R. 8800, the *Supporting Medicare Providers Act of 2022***

Dear Representatives Bera and Bucshon:

The undersigned organizations of the Alliance of Specialty Medicine (the “Alliance”) write to thank you for your bipartisan leadership in introducing the ***Supporting Medicare Providers Act of 2022 (H.R. 8800)***. The Alliance is supportive of Congress taking immediate steps to stabilize Medicare physician reimbursements and appreciates your acknowledgement that more permanent solutions to address the systemic issues with the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) policies must be pursued.

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 ***Supporting Medicare Providers Act of 2022 (H.R. 8800)*** would stabilize the harmful Medicare payment cuts to physicians by averting the impending 4.42% cut to the MPFS conversion factor set to go into effect in January. The Alliance is reassured that the legislation includes Sense of Congress language acknowledging the need to address underlying issues with the MPFS, including to ensure a commitment to the financial stability and predictability in MPFS; promote and reward value-based care innovation; and to safeguard timely access to high-quality care by advancing health equity and reducing disparities. We look forward to working with you to advance this legislation and to ensure payment stability for specialty physicians.

As you may be aware, Medicare physician reimbursement has failed to keep pace with rising inflation, leading to inadequate reimbursement. As such, in addition to stabilizing the Medicare physician reimbursements in the short-term, the Alliance, further requests that Congress extend critical financial relief to physicians facing the looming threat of Medicare spending sequestration by waiving the additional 4% Medicare payment reduction triggered by the statutory pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) requirements. These policy modifications will provide specialty physicians with critical short-term stability as Congress works on a permanent and meaningful solution to the flawed physician payment system.

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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

The Alliance thanks you for your bipartisan leadership in introducing this legislation and looks forward to working with you to implement additional, meaningful permanent solutions related to Medicare payment to physicians. We would be happy to discuss this letter with you or answer any other questions, and we can be reached at info@specialtydocs.org.

Sincerely,

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