

November 16, 2023

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

The undersigned national medical organizations and state medical societies write to strongly urge Congress to quickly pass legislation to stop another impending round of Medicare payment cuts. Absent Congressional intervention, physicians are facing a 3.37 percent payment reduction on January 1, 2024.

The combination of ever-increasing practice costs and long stagnated Medicare payment rates has become unsustainable. When adjusted for inflation in practice costs, Medicare physician pay has *declined* 26 percent from 2001 to 2023. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently acknowledged that the cost of running a practice will increase 4.6 percent in 2024, yet physicians are being subjected to a 3.37 percent cut next year.

If Congress does not act by the end of the year to stop this impending payment cut, many physicians will be forced to reduce available health care services, cut office hours, or even forgo treating Medicare patients altogether. America's physicians and their patients deserve better.

The flawed Medicare physician payment system is in desperate need of fixing. We stand ready to work with House and Senate leadership on bipartisan solutions to stop these drastic payment reductions and provide stability in the Medicare program for our nation's seniors and the physicians who care for them.

Sincerely,

**State Medical Associations**

Medical Association of the State of Alabama  
Alaska State Medical Association  
Arizona Medical Association  
Arkansas Medical Society  
California Medical Association  
Colorado Medical Society  
Connecticut State Medical Society  
Medical Society of Delaware  
Medical Society of the District of Columbia  
Florida Medical Association  
Medical Association of Georgia  
Hawaii Medical Association

Idaho Medical Association  
Illinois State Medical Society  
Indiana State Medical Association  
Iowa Medical Society  
Kentucky Medical Association  
Louisiana State Medical Society  
MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society  
Massachusetts Medical Society  
Michigan State Medical Society  
Minnesota Medical Association  
Mississippi State Medical Association  
Missouri State Medical Association  
Montana Medical Association  
Nebraska Medical Association  
Medical Society of New Jersey  
New Mexico Medical Society  
Medical Society of the State of New York  
Nevada State Medical Association  
North Carolina Medical Society  
North Dakota Medical Association  
Ohio State Medical Association  
Oklahoma State Medical Association  
Oregon Medical Association  
Pennsylvania Medical Society  
Rhode Island Medical Society  
South Carolina Medical Association  
South Dakota State Medical Association  
Tennessee Medical Association  
Texas Medical Association  
Utah Medical Association  
Vermont Medical Society  
Medical Society of Virginia  
Washington State Medical Association  
West Virginia State Medical Association  
Wisconsin Medical Society  
Wyoming Medical Society

**National Medical (Specialty) Societies**

AMDA—The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine  
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
American Academy of Dermatology Association  
American Academy of Emergency Medicine  
American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery  
American Academy of Pain Medicine  
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
American Academy of Sleep Medicine  
American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons

American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodagnostic Medicine  
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons  
American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
American College of Cardiology  
American College of Emergency Physicians  
American College of Gastroenterology  
American College of Lifestyle Medicine  
American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics  
American College of Mohs Surgery  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Radiation Oncology  
American College of Radiology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Surgeons  
American Epilepsy Society  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery  
American Society of Addiction Medicine  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
American Society of Dermatopathology  
American Society of General Surgeons  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Nuclear Cardiology  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Society of Retina Specialists  
American Society of Transplant Surgeons  
American Thoracic Society  
American Urogynecologic Society  
American Urological Association  
American Vein & Lymphatic Society  
American Venous Forum  
AMGA—American Medical Group Association  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association for Clinical Oncology  
College of American Pathologists  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Heart Rhythm Society  
International Pain and Spine Intervention Society  
International Society for Advancement of Spine Surgery  
Medical Group Management Association  
North American Neuromodulation Society  
North American Spine Society  
Outpatient Endovascular and Interventional Society

Society for Cardiovascular Angiography & Interventions  
Society for Vascular Surgery  
Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons  
Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography  
Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance  
Society of Hospital Medicine  
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons