



December 12, 2023

The Honorable
Gregory F. Murphy, MD
U.S. House of Representatives
407 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable
Danny K. Davis
U.S. House of Representatives
2159 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Murphy and Davis:

The Heart Rhythm Society commends you for introducing the bipartisan legislation, *Preserving Seniors' Access to Physicians Act of 2023* (H.R. 6683) to stop another impending round of payment cuts to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. This legislation will prevent the full 3.37% fee schedule reduction from being implemented on January 1, 2024.

The Heart Rhythm Society (HRS), representing more than 8,200 members in cardiac pacing and electrophysiology, consisting of physicians, scientists, and allied health professionals, is the international leader in science, education and advocacy for cardiac arrhythmia professionals and patients, and the primary information resource on heart rhythm disorders. Electrophysiology is a distinct specialty of cardiology. The Society's mission is to improve the care of patients by promoting research, education, and optimal health care policies and standards.

The impending 3.37% reduction comes after three years of consecutive cuts to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. Participating Medicare physicians and other health care providers do not receive inflationary updates in the Medicare Part B program, which is why eliminating this cut is so crucial. If Congress does not act this year, Medicare payments will have been cut by almost 10% in four years, which is simply unsustainable. Without Congressional intervention physicians and other health care providers who treat Medicare patients may be forced to reduce medical services, cut office hours, or even forgo treating Medicare patients altogether.

HRS fully supports the *Preserving Seniors' Access to Physicians Act* to ensure that Medicare physicians and other health care providers continue to have the necessary financial support to care for our nation's seniors, and we stand ready to work with you to pass this legislation. Please contact Lisa Miller, MS, Senior Director of Health Policy and Reimbursement at LMiller@hrsonline.org or (202) 464-3414 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jodie L. Hurwitz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jodie L. Hurwitz, MD, FHRS
President, Heart Rhythm Society