

February 28, 2025

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

The Honorable John Thune  
Senate Majority Leader  
S-230, The Capitol  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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

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

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Thune, Leader Schumer, and Leader Jeffries:

The undersigned physician and non-physician organizations, representing over one million clinicians, reach out to strongly urge Congress to take action to reverse the current 2.83 percent Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) Conversion Factor (CF) reduction and provide clinicians with a positive payment update in the upcoming March 2025 appropriations bill. **Specifically, we ask that you cosponsor and support passage of H.R. 879, the bipartisan Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act.**

Our organizations remain united on the need for both long- and short-term Medicare payment reform. Each year since 2020, Congress has acted to mitigate annual reductions in the MPFS CF. However, even with the additional relief from Congress, 2025 now marks the fifth consecutive CF cut.<sup>1</sup>

As the only major provider fee schedule without an annual automatic inflationary update, MPFS reimbursement has failed to keep pace with the actual costs of providing care, leaving our members to navigate financial uncertainty year after year after year. Indeed, when adjusted for inflation, Medicare payments declined by 33 percent since 2001.<sup>2</sup> The cost of running a medical practice continues to rise due to inflation. In fact, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) projects a 3.5 percent increase in the Medicare

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/cf-history.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2025-medicare-updates-inflation-chart.pdf>

Economic Index (MEI) in 2025.<sup>3</sup> Clearly, this unstable path threatens Medicare beneficiaries' timely access to quality care — in both rural and urban settings. The ongoing downward reimbursement spiral is also contributing to consolidation in the health care system, as more clinicians are no longer able to sustain their practices and are forced to seek alternative business models, such as hospital employment, private equity and other alternatives. Finally, these cuts threaten the ability of our members — who are employers and small business owners — to serve as economic engines of our local communities.

Hospitals enjoy a built-in inflationary update and Medicare Advantage plans receive an update in excess of inflation. Neither can singularly provide the care our patients need. It's the clinicians who are the heroes of patient care, yet our members are constantly being asked to do more with less, which is an extremely dangerous proposition that impacts the lives of millions of Medicare beneficiaries across the country.

Fortunately, a bipartisan group of lawmakers are once again attempting to stop the bleeding— at least for the remainder of 2025. H.R. 879, the Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act, recently introduced by Representatives Greg Murphy, MD (R-NC), Jimmy Panetta (D-CA), Mariannette Miller-Meeks, MD (R-IA), and Kim Schrier, MD (D-WA), along with several other bipartisan House members, prospectively stops the entirety of the current reimbursement reduction and helps account for rising inflationary costs with a two percent payment increase, equivalent to roughly half of MEI for 2025. **We urge Congressional leadership to include H.R. 879 in the upcoming government funding legislation.**

We understand that Congress faces many complex issues, competing priorities, and shrinking legislative calendars. However, our members — and, more importantly, our patients — cannot wait any longer. The undersigned organizations, as always, stand ready to help in any way we can to ensure both short- and long-term stability to ensure we can continue to do what we are all called to do — serve our patients.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

ADVION (formerly National Association for the Support of Long Term Care)

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/calendar-year-cy-2025-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-final-rule>

Alliance for Physical Therapy Quality and Innovation

Alliance of Specialty Medicine

Ambulatory Surgery Center Association

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 Hospice and Palliative Medicine

American Academy of Ophthalmology

American Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology

American Academy of Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery

American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

American Association of Clinical Urologists

American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons

American Association of Neurological Surgeons

American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons

American Chiropractic Association

American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology

American College of Cardiology

American College of Emergency Physicians

American College of Gastroenterology

American College of Mohs Surgery

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American College of Osteopathic Internists

American College of Physicians  
American College of Radiation Oncology  
American College of Radiology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Surgeons  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living  
American Medical Association  
American Medical Rehabilitation Providers  
American Nurses Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Optometric Association  
American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Podiatric Medical Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association Services  
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society for Radiation Oncology  
American Society for Surgery of the Hand Professional Organization  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery  
American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons  
American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology  
American Society of Echocardiography

American Society of Hand Therapists  
American Society of Neuroradiology  
American Society of Nuclear Cardiology  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Society of Retina Specialists  
American Society of Transplant Surgeons  
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association  
American Urological Association  
Association for Academic Pathology  
Association for Clinical Oncology  
Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists  
Association of Women in Rheumatology  
CardioVascular Coalition  
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations  
College of American Pathologists  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Dialysis Vascular Access Coalition  
Emergency Department Practice Management Association  
Heart Failure Society of America  
Heart Rhythm Advocates  
Heart Rhythm Society  
Indiana Association of Pathologists  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Large Urology Group Practice Association  
Medical Group Management Association  
National Association of Rehabilitation Providers and Agencies

National Infusion Center Association  
Office-Based Facility Association  
Outpatient Endovascular and Interventional Society  
Radiology Business Management Association  
Renal Physicians Association  
Select Medical and the Alliance for Recovery Care  
Society for Vascular Surgery  
Society of Interventional Radiology  
Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery  
Society of Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging  
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons  
US Oncology Network

**State Medical Associations**

California Medical Association  
Florida Medical Association  
Kentucky Medical Association  
Louisiana State Medical Society  
Massachusetts Medical Society  
Medical Society of the State of New York  
Missouri State Medical Association  
Oklahoma State Medical Association  
Pennsylvania Medical Society  
South Dakota State Medical Association  
Texas Medical Association  
Washington State Medical Association