

SUPPORT FOR THE MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENT INNOVATION ACT

“We enthusiastically support this legislation. It not only addresses the continued threat of the SGR formula, it also addresses moving us beyond the fee-for-service payment model toward new models that better align payment with value.” – **David L. Bronson, MD, FACP, President of the American College of Physicians**

“The provisions of this legislation will move us away from the challenges of the past decade and toward a Medicare payment system that promotes the highest levels of access, quality, and efficiency. We applaud the bipartisan approach to addressing a long-standing problem in our health care system.” –**Martin S. Levine, DO, President, American Osteopathic Association**

“This legislation will end the threat of drastic cuts to doctors, and establish a new system for paying doctors that's based on the value of care provided to the patient, not on the quantity of procedures provided.” –**John Rother, President and CEO, National Coalition on Health Care**

“SHM is pleased to support this bipartisan effort to address problems with the sustainable growth rate formula. The introduction of the Medicare Physician Payment Innovation Act is an important step in the essential realignment of health care delivery in our country. We look forward to working with Representatives Schwartz and Heck, and their Congressional colleagues, to secure passage of the bill as soon as possible.” –**Shaun D. Frost, MD, SFHM, President, Society of Hospital Medicine**

“We congratulate Reps. Allyson Schwartz and Joe Heck for this thoughtful bipartisan legislation that offers a concrete and positive path to better and more efficient health care. This legislation begins the transition to a sustainable payment system and helps our complex system better recognize the value of primary medical care. We applaud this effort to keep our promise to these Americans, and we urge Congress to take up this legislation quickly. Only by stabilizing Medicare physician payment can we ensure that elderly and disabled patients will have access to the care they need, when they need it.” –**Glen Stream, MD, MBI, President, American Academy of Family Physicians**

“Members of the Premier Healthcare Alliance applaud the leadership of Rep. Allyson Schwartz (D-PA) and Rep Joe Heck (R-NV) for putting forward a long-term solution to address the Medicare sustainable growth rate (SGR). The SGR is an enormous unfunded liability that each year threatens to cut physician reimbursement to levels that would devastate the healthcare system and hinder Medicare patients' access to care. Moreover, this approach recognizes the need to reward value over volume, and creates mechanisms that will greatly advance delivery system reforms that enhance patient satisfaction, quality and outcomes.”

–**Blaire G. Childs, Senior Vice President, Premier Healthcare Alliance**

“The Academy is glad to express its strong support for the bipartisan Medicare Physician Payment Innovation Act and congratulates Congresswoman Schwartz and Congressman Heck for introducing it. As developers of the bipartisan Independence at Home program that requires minimum savings for CMS and then provides for savings sharing for the highest cost chronically ill Medicare beneficiaries, the Academy strongly supports incentives to provide better care coordination and reward physicians, nurse practitioners,

physician assistants and other clinicians for working together to provide better health care at lower cost. In fact, we are confident that the Independence at Home care delivery model, proven effective over decades by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, will be one of the alternative payment models that will reward high-value care while reducing the incentives responsible for fragmented, volume-driven health care."

–Constance Row, Executive Director, American Academy of Home Care Physicians

"On behalf of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), which represents the nation's colleges of osteopathic medicine and their osteopathic physicians in training, I applaud Representatives Schwartz and Heck for their leadership in support of this critical legislation, which would repeal the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate and incentivize high quality, high value health care. This legislation would prioritize the continued development of a sufficiently trained workforce to meet the needs of the 21st century." **–Stephen C. Shannon, D.O., M.P.H., President and CEO, American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine**

"The College commends Rep. Schwartz and Rep. Heck for working in a bipartisan manner to propose a repeal of the flawed sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula. Stabilizing physician reimbursements for several years while new payment and delivery models are tested will provide needed certainty for physician practices. The ACC urges Congress to act as soon as possible to reform the physician payment system. We must move from a volume-based payment system toward one that rewards value." **–William Zoghbi, MD, FACC, President, American College of Cardiology**

"The Medicare Physician Payment Innovation Act of 2012 is an important step forward that promises to stabilize Medicare, improve patient access to care, promote the development of multiple payment and delivery options, and support the viability of providers who manage and coordinate care for Medicare beneficiaries, including those with chronic and complex medical conditions." **–Timothy J. Laing, MD, Chair, American College of Rheumatology Government Affairs Committee**

"We support Rep. Schwartz and Rep Heck as they work to resolve the very critical issue of how Medicare pays for Part B therapy services, which includes services provided by a number of our members, and look forward to working with Reps. Schwartz and Heck, and members of Congress as this legislation moves forward." **–William L. Minnix, Jr. President and CEO, Leading Age**

"Einstein Healthcare Network applauds the bipartisan effort to eliminate the unworkable formula for Medicare payments to physicians and end the possibility of Draconian cuts in reimbursements that would ravage our country's healthcare system. This proposed legislation would stabilize payments and ultimately improve healthcare. We're proud to have two connections to the bill. U.S. Rep. Allyson Schwartz is our state's representative in Congress, and the bill's co-sponsor, Joe Heck, of Nevada, is a physician who obtained a residency in emergency medicine here at Einstein in 1992. We commend both of them for their efforts." **–Barry R. Freedman, President and CEO, Einstein Healthcare Network, Philadelphia.**

“Safety net hospitals – in partnership with their clinicians – work every day to provide coordinated, high-quality care to their patients. This bill would further those efforts and help ensure access for our nation’s most vulnerable patients.” –**Bruce Siegel, MD, MPH, President and CEO, National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems**

“The American Academy of Neurology strongly supports this effort to not only permanently eliminate the flawed SGR, but also provide a path forward to innovative payment plans that ensure that all physician services are valued.” –**Bruce Sigsbee, MD, President, American Academy of Neurology**

“The permanent repeal of the SGR is critical to ensure a fiscally responsible payment system for America’s physicians and to allow patients continued access to care. The Endocrine Society believes that the Medicare Physician Payment Innovation Act of 2012 is a critical step towards this goal.” –**Janet Hall, MD, President, The Endocrine Society**