

December 20, 2022

Representative Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House

Representative Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader

Senator Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader

Senator Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader

Senator Ron Wyden
Chairman, Finance Committee

Senator Mike Crapo
Ranking Member, Finance Committee

Representative Richard Neal
Chairman, Ways and Means Committee

Representative Kevin Brady
Ranking Member, Ways and Means Committee

Representative Frank Pallone
Chairman, Energy and Commerce Committee

Representative Cathy McMorris Rogers
Ranking Member, Energy and Commerce Committee

Dear Congressional Leadership:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing surgeons and anesthesiologists, we are extremely disappointed in the language related to Medicare physician payment included in the omnibus bill that was released early this morning. The decision by congressional leadership to allow Medicare to cut physicians' payment will further exacerbate the significant financial hardships doctors are already facing due to record inflation and high practice costs and undermine Medicare's ability to deliver on its promise to seniors and future generations. Further, these cuts will also exacerbate disparities in access to care and health outcomes among rural and minority populations.

We urge Congress to modify this language and stop the full 4.5% Medicare physician payment cut before passing the omnibus legislation.

Sincerely,

American College of Surgeons

American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

American Academy of Ophthalmology

American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery

American Association of Neurological Surgeons

American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society

American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery

American Society for Surgery of the Hand Professional Organization

American Society of Anesthesiologists

American Society of Breast Surgeons

American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery

American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons

American Society of Plastic Surgeons

American Society of Retina Specialists

American Urogynecologic Society

Congress of Neurological Surgeons

Society for Vascular Surgery

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons