



September 26, 2022

The Honorable Ami Bera, M.D.
U.S. House of Representatives
172 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Larry Bucshon, M.D.
U.S. House of Representatives
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: H.R. 8800, *Supporting Medicare Providers Act of 2022*

Dear Representatives Bera and Bucshon:

I write on behalf of the Emergency Department Practice Management Association (EDPMA) to thank you for introducing the *Supporting Medicare Providers Act of 2022*. EDPMA supports this important legislation which would hold providers harmless from the 4.42% Medicare physician payment cut set to take effect on January 1, 2023.

EDPMA is the nation's only professional physician trade association focused on the delivery of high-quality, cost-effective care in the emergency department. EDPMA's membership includes emergency medicine physician groups of all sizes, as well as billing, coding, and other professional support organizations that assist healthcare providers in our nation's emergency departments. Together, EDPMA's members deliver or directly support health care for approximately half of the 146 million patients that visit U.S. emergency departments each year.

As you know, physicians face significant payment cuts in calendar year 2023, specifically a reduction of nearly 4.5% to the Medicare conversion factor (CF) and a statutory 4% PAYGO cut. Thank you for addressing the cut to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule CF resulting from the payment formula's budget neutrality requirements in the *Supporting Medicare Providers Act*. EDPMA also appreciates the bill's inclusion of a Sense of the Congress related to the need to pursue administrative and legislative actions to "ensure financial stability and predictability in the Medicare physician payment system; promote and reward value-based care innovation; and safeguard timely access to high-quality care by advancing health equity and reducing disparities."

Thank you for your leadership on this issue and commitment to providing greater stability for physicians participating in the Medicare program. We look forward to working with you to address the short-term issue of stabilizing Medicare reimbursement in 2023 – both by increasing the Medicare CF in 2023 by at least 4.5%, and by waiving the 4% PAYGO cut. If you have any questions, please contact Cathey Wise, CAE, Executive Director of EDPMA, at cathey.wise@edpma.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don H. Powell, DO". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Don H. Powell, DO, FACEP
Chairman of the Board