



May 31, 2024

The Honorable Diana Harshbarger
United States House of Representatives
167 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: EMTALA Preservation Act of 2024

Representative Harshbarger:

The Emergency Department Practice Management Association (EDPMA) is the nation's only professional 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, along with other professional support organizations that assist healthcare clinicians in our nation's emergency departments. Together, EDPMA members see or support 60% of all annual emergency department visits in the country.

EDPMA, as part of its overall goal in advocating for the physical and financial well-being of emergency physicians, fully supports and encourages your filing sponsorship of the "EMTALA Preservation Act of 2024", which will serve as an innovative piece of federal legislation that would establish a stand-alone, supplemental funding source of reimbursement under the Medicare Part B program. This bill would create a revenue source to serve as the sole and exclusive mechanism to reimburse emergency physicians and providers delivering EMTALA-related emergency care. The bill creates a +15% supplemental payment to reimburse EMTALA providers for the uncompensated care they deliver in U.S hospital emergency department, primarily to rural, indigent, and uninsured patients in communities across the country, clearly reflective of Tennessee's First Congressional District.

Emergency medicine physicians are at a precipice right now as a result of declining Medicare reimbursement compounded by the effects of the No Surprise's Act. Further, inflationary wage and cost pressures have taken an enormous toll on our practices; we see no immediate relief on the horizon.

While we remain passionately committed to our obligation to deliver EMTALA related care to the neediest of patients, the reality remains that EMTALA places before us a pressing, unfunded mandate that can no longer be sustained without congressional relief.

Therefore, your filing, support, and Congress' passage of of the "EMTALA Preservation Act of 2024" will provide the entire emergency medicine physician community with immediate and sustainable financial relief that will assist the medical specialty to continue to deliver essential EMTALA-mandated care.

Know further, that EDPMA, upon your filing of the EMTALA Preservation Act of 2024, will actively advocate on your behalf. We will also actively engage with like-minded individuals, trade associations and medical specialty societies to promote its support and ultimate passage. We will further publicly advocate for co-sponsorship of the bill in a bi-partisan manner. We have attached a copy of the bill we propose you consider sponsoring and filing as soon as reasonably possible during the current term of the 118th Congress.

On behalf of the EDPMA and its membership, thank you for your support of emergency medicine.

Andrea Brault

Andrea Brault, MD, MMM, FACEP

Chair

Emergency Department Practice Management Association