



September 21, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
233 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
U.S. Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders Schumer, McConnell, and McCarthy:

On behalf of the undersigned chapters representing Fellows of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), we appreciate Congress' past efforts to delay the impact of Medicare payment cuts, providing reprieve during a time of significant instability. However, without congressional intervention surgeons, other physicians, and health care professionals will receive significant cuts of nearly 8.5% in Medicare payment on January 1, 2023.

The 2023 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) Proposed Rule once again jeopardizes the financial stability of many physician practices by proposing policies that will lead to approximately 4.5 percent in cuts to Medicare payment. These cuts, combined with the pending threat of the 4 percent PAYGO reduction, are simply not sustainable. As proposed, these cuts would be on top of the 2 percent sequestration cuts implemented in 2022 and the lowest level conversion factor since 1994. With no mechanism in place to bring payment levels to the current cost of providing care, these compounding negative financial factors facing those who treat Medicare patients co-exist amid historically high inflation. While true transformation will require significant collaboration and investment, the ACS remains committed to partnering with Congress to establish a pathway for identifying policy solutions to ensure long-term stability for the MPFS while identifying and advancing other necessary reforms.

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We urge you and your colleagues to expeditiously pass legislation that stops the 4.5 percent cut for 2023 and waives the 4 percent statutory PAYGO requirement. In addition to staving off these immediate cuts, the legislation should also provide a one-year inflationary update based on the Medicare Economic Index.

For more information about the ACS and Surgical Care Coalition's efforts to mitigate future Medicare payment cuts, visit www.facs.org/advocacy/federal/medicare and <https://www.surgicalcare.org/>.

Sincerely,

Alabama Chapter
Alaska Chapter
Arizona Chapter
Arkansas Chapter
Brooklyn-Long Island Chapter
Colorado Chapter
Connecticut Chapter
Delaware Chapter
Eastern Long Island Chapter
Florida Chapter
Georgia Society of the American College of Surgeons
Guam Chapter
Hawaii Chapter
Idaho Chapter
Illinois Chapter
Indiana Chapter
Iowa Chapter
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Kansas Chapter
Kentucky Chapter
Keystone Chapter
Louisiana Chapter
Maine Chapter
Maryland Chapter
Massachusetts Chapter
Metropolitan Chicago Chapter
Metropolitan Philadelphia Chapter
Metropolitan Washington DC Chapter
Michigan Chapter
Minnesota Surgical Society – a Chapter of the ACS
Mississippi Chapter
Missouri Chapter
Montana and Wyoming Chapter
Nebraska Chapter
Nevada Chapter
New Hampshire Chapter

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Oregon Chapter
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San Diego Chapter
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South Texas Chapter
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West Virginia Chapter
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