



December 12, 2025

The Honorable Raul Ruiz, M.D.
2342 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Panetta
200 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kim Schrier, M.D.
1110 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Re: MGMA Letter of Support for the Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act

Dear Representatives Ruiz, Bilirakis, Bera, Panetta, and Schrier:

The Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) thanks you for your longstanding leadership in supporting medical groups' ability to offer high-quality, cost-effective care. With a membership of more than 60,000 medical practice administrators, executives, and leaders, MGMA represents more than 15,000 medical group practices ranging from small private medical practices to large national health systems, representing more than 350,000 physicians. We write to you today to express our support for the bipartisan Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act (H.R. 6160). This critical piece of legislation would enact a long-needed annual inflationary update to Medicare reimbursement tied to the Medicare Economic Index (MEI).

Unlike other reimbursement systems under the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) purview, Medicare Part B payment does not include an annual inflationary update that keeps pace with the cost of providing care. The negative effects of a lack of an MEI update are myriad, as physician practices have detailed considering limiting the number of new Medicare patients, reducing charity care, reducing number of clinical staff, and closing satellite locations should Medicare payment continue on this path.

Medical groups have been dealing with a 2.83% cut to the Medicare conversion factor for all of 2025 that has compounded other financial pressures such as staffing shortages and rising operating costs. While we are grateful that Congress enacted a 2.5% increase to 2026 Medicare reimbursement, CMS' recently finalized payment rates for 2026, that incorporate the 2.5% increase, are barely above 2024 reimbursement levels. This small increase is undercut by other CMS policies that decrease reimbursement for certain specialties. Given the downward trajectory of Medicare reimbursement, with its frequent reductions and lack of an inflationary update, it is time to enact a long-term fix to stop the cascading negative effects of inadequate reimbursement.

MGMA thanks you for reintroducing the Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act, as this inflationary update is necessary to not only align with other payment systems, but also adequately account for the cost of operating a medical group. If you have any questions, please contact James Haynes, Associate Director of Government Affairs, at jhaynes@mgma.org or 202-293-3450.

Sincerely,

/s/

Anders M. Gilberg
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs