December 7, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

Speaker

U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Charles Schumer

Majority Leader U.S. Senate

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy

Minority Leader

U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Mitch McConnell

Minority Leader U.S. Senate

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

On behalf of the undersigned surgical organizations, we urge Congress to pass the Protecting Medicare and American Farmers from Sequester Cuts Act to mitigate the 2022 Medicare payment cuts.

The Medicare provisions in the legislative agreement take steps to address the urgent calls from surgeons by minimizing Medicare payment cuts starting in January. Providing relief from these significant cuts will help to stabilize the health care system while policymakers consider solutions to the ongoing structural problems with Medicare's broken payment system.

We urge Congress to follow-up on our earlier requests and take action, including hearings, towards developing a long-term solution in 2022. In the meantime, we urge immediate floor consideration and support for the Protecting Medicare and American Farmers from Sequester Cuts Act.

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 Orthopedic Surgeons

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American College of Osteopathic Surgeons

American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society

American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery

American Society for Surgery of the Hand

American Society of Breast Surgeons

American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons

American Urogynecologic Society

American Urological Association

Congress of Neurological Surgeons

Society for Vascular Surgery

Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons

Society of Gynecologic Oncology

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons