



February 14, 2018

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Finance  
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Johnny Isakson  
131 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Warner  
703 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden, Senator Isakson, and Senator Warner:

On behalf of AMGA and our members across the country, thank you for your efforts to write, and secure passage of, the Creating High-Quality Results and Outcomes Necessary to Improve Chronic (CHRONIC) Care Act in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018. We applaud your tireless work to develop and advance this bipartisan legislation to improve care for the chronically ill. We also greatly appreciated the process in which the Senate Finance Committee's Chronic Care Working Group solicited and incorporated feedback from AMGA and other stakeholders during the drafting process.

AMGA is a trade association leading the transformation of health care in America. AMGA is the national voice promoting awareness of our members' recognized excellence in the delivery of coordinated, high quality, high-value care. More than 175,000 physicians practice in our member organizations, delivering care to one in three Americans.

The Bipartisan Budget Act will allow our members to better care for their chronically ill patients by allowing Medicare Shared Savings Program Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) the option to choose prospective assignment. This will inform them of exactly who their patients are and allow them to most effectively manage these patient populations. The law also creates a beneficiary incentive program to help engage patients by encouraging them to use primary care in qualifying ACOs. Additionally, we appreciate the expansion of telehealth reimbursement in the Medicare Advantage (MA) program, for certain ACOs, and for the treatment of patients experiencing a stroke. We believe the expansion of telehealth will increase access to these important services. We also are pleased to see the expansion of supplemental benefits in the MA program.

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*Oregon Medical Group*

Once again, we greatly appreciate your tireless leadership on this issue, resulting in Congressional passage of the CHRONIC Care Act. AMGA and our members stand ready to work with Congress and the Administration as the CHRONIC Care Act is implemented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerry Penso". The signature is written in a dark ink and has a slightly blurred, natural appearance.

Jerry Penso, M.D., M.B.A.  
President and CEO  
AMGA