

One Prince Street Alexandria, VA 22314-3318 • 703.838.0033 • 703.548.1890

March 20, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable John Thune Majority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Minority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Minority Leader Jeffries, and Minority Leader Schumer,

On behalf of AMGA and our members, I want to express my deep disappointment with Congress' inaction on critical healthcare issues last week.

In the recent continuing resolution (CR) legislation, both chambers had an opportunity to address the 2.83% cut to the Medicare Part B conversion factor that went into effect in January. Eliminating cuts to Medicare Part B payments would have significantly increased Medicare beneficiary access to care and eased real stresses on maintaining healthcare staffing levels. Now that the CR has passed, AMGA urges Congress to eliminate the cuts promptly, either through a freestanding measure or by attaching them to another legislative vehicle. The time to act is now.

These Medicare cuts are having a real, immediate impact on providers and patients alike. AMGA recently surveyed its membership on what actions they are taking after the conversion factor cuts went into effect in January 2025. Forty percent of AMGA respondents eliminated services to Medicare patients. Twenty-five percent of respondents furloughed or laid off clinical staff, and thirty-one percent furloughed or laid off nonclinical staff. Thirteen percent of survey respondents are not accepting new Medicare patients this year. Access and staffing issues will only worsen if these cuts are left in place for the entire year.

Access to Medicare continues to be a bipartisan concern. For example, legislative proposal H.R. 879, the *Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act of 2025*, has over 100 co-sponsors and seeks to address this issue by eliminating the 2025 Medicare conversion factor cut and providing an inflationary update. Last week, the Senate attempted to approve the bipartisan health extenders package from December, which had not received a vote in Congress. This package included a critical fix to Medicare Part B cuts. Measures like these indicate that there is broad bipartisan support to address these cuts.

¹ https://www.amga.org/getmedia/5c84497e-a9c4-4c31-9180-83af66f5793f/2025-medicare-cuts-impact-survey-results.pdf



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On behalf of AMGA and its 400-member health systems and medical groups, I would like to thank you for your continued support of Medicare patients and providers. I implore you to take action immediately.

Sincerely,

Jerry Penso, MD, MBA

President and Chief Executive Officer

AMGA