

March 26, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Reid:

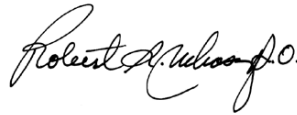
Today, in a robust bipartisan vote, the House of Representatives approved the *Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015* (H.R. 2). Our organizations, which collectively represent over 446,000 physicians, applaud the House for passing H.R. 2. This legislation permanently repeals the failed sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula, ensures access to health care coverage for millions of children by extending the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and provides essential funding for Community Health Centers and other programs aimed at providing care to low-income and vulnerable populations.

This strong bipartisan vote demonstrates that a consensus now exists that the flawed SGR formula should be struck from the Medicare program once and for all. Our organizations call on the Senate to follow the House's leadership and pass this legislation prior to the enactment of the SGR cuts on April 1. Furthermore, we do not support any short-term extensions of current Medicare physician payment policies. After 12 years and 17 short-term "doc fixes" it is time to rid the Medicare program of this failed policy and we call on the Senate to act in a timely manner, approve the House-passed SGR repeal legislation, and set our nation's health care system on a better path.

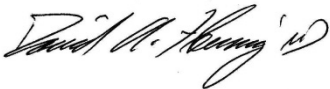
Respectfully,



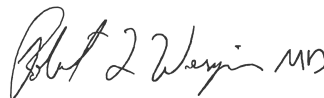
Andrew L. Warshaw, MD, FACS
President, American College of Surgeons



Robert S. Juhasz, DO
President, American Osteopathic Association



David A. Fleming, MD, FACP
President, American College of Physicians



Robert Wergin, MD, FAAFP
President, American Academy of Family Physicians