

Dear [Elected Official],

The 2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule includes payment cuts to multiple healthcare providers and specialties. This is due to an unintended consequence of recent changes to how primary care physicians are paid. New increases to the values of physician Evaluation & Management services must be offset by cuts to other services because, by law, an increase in one set of services requires a decrease in another.

As a constituent, I ask you to support bipartisan legislation introduced that will put a solution in place for these devastating provider cuts. "Holding Providers Harmless From Medicare Cuts During COVID-19 Act of 2020" (H.R. 8702/S. 5007) would keep Medicare payment levels stable for the next two years. I urge you to support H.R. 8702/S. 5007 in any year-end legislation.

Now is the not time to make cut payments to health care and rehabilitation providers, including physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech language pathologists and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physicians. These highly skilled clinicians, and many others affected by proposed cuts to Medicare payments, provide essential services to those living with a brain injury, stroke or other neurological condition. A payment cut of this magnitude could ultimately force providers to cut services or close their doors, thus limiting access to necessary rehabilitation services at a time when these services are more important than ever.

I urge you to pass this legislation to meet the needs of patients during this public health emergency. As these cuts are scheduled to begin in less than three weeks, it is crucial that Congress act now to ensure patients and providers are protected from this proposal.

Sincerely,
[Your name]