

January 30, 2025

The Honorable Greg Murphy U.S. House of Representatives 407 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Murphy:

Thank you for your introduction of the *Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act of 2025* that would halt the 2.83 percent Medicare physician payment cut that took effect on January 1, 2025. The American Society of Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC) offers endorsement of this legislation and applauds your recognition that the current payment cut is harmful to the practice of medicine and Medicare beneficiary access to care.

ASNC commends you for your continued leadership to address the pervasive challenges with the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, not the least of which is inadequacy of annual Medicare physician payment updates and current requirements of budget neutrality. Comprehensive reform of Medicare payment policy is necessary, but immediate action is needed by Congress to stop the current physician payment cut and add an inflationary update tied to the Medicare Economic Index.

Your legislation to stop the payment cut and replace it with a 6.62 percent positive adjustment starting April 1, 2025 and through the end of the year would provide welcome relief to physician practices that are struggling with increasing physician practice costs. ASNC is prepared to call on Congress to act swiftly and pass the *Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act*.

Any questions or requests for information should be directed to Camille Bonta, ASNC policy advisor, at <u>cbonta@summithealthconsulting.com</u> or 202-320-3658.

Sincerely,

Panithaya Charconthaitawee,

Panithaya Chareonthaitawee, MD President, American Society of Nuclear Cardiology