

January 11, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

The Honorable Greg Murphy
United States House of Representatives
407 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Danny Davis
United States House of Representatives
2159 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Murphy and Davis,

On behalf of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP), we write to express our support for H.R.6683, the *Preserving Seniors' Access to Physicians Act*, which would eliminate cuts to physician reimbursement under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) in 2024.

ACOFP is the professional organization representing more than 25,000 practicing osteopathic family physicians, residents, and students throughout the United States who are deeply committed to advancing our nation's health care system by improving health care delivery and outcomes and ensuring that patients have access to high-quality care. Ensuring the financial viability of osteopathic family physician practices is one of our top priorities.

Osteopathic family physicians are essential to the nation's public health system and play a critical role in providing care to Medicare beneficiaries. However, they face an increasingly challenging financial environment providing Medicare beneficiaries with access to care. Despite osteopathic family physicians' contributions to patient care and public health, they have been forced to contend with Medicare reimbursement that does not cover the cost of providing care.

The failure of the Medicare PFS to keep pace with the increasing cost of providing care has created an unstable financial environment. Physicians nationwide are currently facing a 3.37 percent payment cut for seeing Medicare beneficiaries. Many providers are small-business owners who are trying to cope with administrative burdens, pay staff and facility costs, and purchase essential technology. Many of our solo, independent, and rural members are struggling to remain open.

The *Preserving Seniors' Access to Physicians Act* would eliminate this year's 3.37 percent physician reimbursement cut by providing a 4.62 percent increase to the Medicare PFS. This would provide much needed financial stability to osteopathic family physicians and ensure continued access to care for seniors.

Thank you for your commitment to addressing this important issue. We look forward to working with you in advancing this legislation. Should you need any additional information or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact ACOFP at advocacy@acofp.org or (847) 952-5100.

Sincerely,



David Park, DO, FACOFP, *dist.*
President, ACOFP