May 28, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-221 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Chairman
Committee on Finance
U.S. Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
U.S. Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015

Dear Honorable Members of Congress:

The undersigned organizations would like to thank you for your leadership in the passage of H.R. 2, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015. We especially appreciate a repeal of the CMS policy to convert 10- and 90-day global surgical codes to 0-day codes. Unbundling global surgical payments would have resulted in adverse effects for both providers and patients by increasing financial and administrative burdens impacting continuity of care. Protecting the global surgical payment structure will also help surgeons to participate in the development of alternative payment models to promote the best possible patient care and outcomes.
Honorable Members of Congress
May 28, 2015

We look forward to working with Congress to ensure the provisions surrounding global surgical payments are implemented as the authorizing language intended.

Thank you again for repealing the flawed sustainable growth rate formula, preventing the implementation of the CMS policy to dismantle global surgical payments, and creating meaningful Medicare payment reform.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
American Academy of Ophthalmology
American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American College of Surgeons
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
American Urogynecologic Society
American Urological Association
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Society for Vascular Surgery
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
The American Society of Breast Surgeons
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons