



AMERICAN
COLLEGE of
CARDIOLOGY



The Society
of Thoracic
Surgeons

July 12, 2017

The Honorable Pat Tiberi
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health
Committee on Ways and Means
1203 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Pascrell
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Trade
Committee on Ways and Means
2370 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Tiberi and Ranking Member Pascrell:

The undersigned organizations are pleased to offer our support for HR 3163, the *Medicare Part B Home Infusion Services Temporary Transitional Payment Act*. We thank you for introducing this bipartisan legislation to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries continue to have access to lifesaving infusion therapies.

HR 3163 creates a temporary transitional payment beginning January 1, 2019, for critical services associated with Part B infusion drugs. This transitional payment ensures that our most fragile patients do not experience a “care gap” while the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) works to finalize a permanent services payment from the *21st Century Cures Act*, scheduled for January 2021. This temporary and transitional payment will allow cardiac patients to continue to undergo home inotropic infusions as part of palliative, end-of-life care or as a bridge to cardiac transplantation. We urge all members to support enactment of HR 3163 as soon as possible.

Thank you and your staff for your efforts to introduce this vital legislation. We commend you for your leadership and look forward to working with you as this moves forward.

Sincerely,

American College of Cardiology
Heart Failure Society of America
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

cc: Speaker Paul Ryan, United States House of Representatives
Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, United States House of Representatives
Chairman Kevin Brady, Committee on Ways and Means
Ranking Member Richard Neal, Committee on Ways and Means
Chairman Greg Walden, Committee on Energy and Commerce
Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Committee on Energy and Commerce