



March 26, 2015

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

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

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

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

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Speaker Boehner, Minority Leader Reid, and Minority Leader Pelosi:

On behalf of the more than 100,000 nationally-certified physician assistants (PAs) represented by the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA), I am writing to communicate AAPA's support for H.R. 2, the Medicare and CHIP Reauthorization Act. Built on the bicameral, bipartisan language which was widely supported both in Congress and by hundreds of healthcare stakeholder groups in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress, H.R. 2 will provide much-needed stability to the Medicare program to the benefit of both Medicare beneficiaries and the healthcare providers who treat them. We are very pleased that H.R. 2 will also reauthorize CHIP and continue funding for the National Health Service Corps and Community Health Centers programs.

AAPA strongly supports the repeal of SGR, as well as language in the legislation which recognizes the role of PAs in providing complex chronic care to patients and that includes PAs as an eligible healthcare professional for the value-based performance payment program.

We are pleased that Congress again has the unique opportunity to capitalize on a near-historically low CBO score for a full SGR repeal, and it appears that there remains a bipartisan and bicameral desire to permanently remove this flawed policy. AAPA commends the progress that has been made thus far, and we encourage you to move forward in passing H.R. 2 before the expiration of the current patch.

AAPA looks forward to working with you to help pass this critical legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact Sandy Harding, AAPA senior director of federal advocacy, at [sharding@aapa.org](mailto:sharding@aapa.org) or 571-319-4338 with questions regarding the PA profession or the Academy's comments.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Dorn  
Chief Executive Officer