

December 3, 2020

The Honorable Bradley Schneider U.S. House of Representatives 1432 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David McKinley U.S. House of Representatives 2239 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Re: Letter of Support for the Medicare Sequester COVID Moratorium Act

Dear Representatives Schneider and McKinley:

On behalf of our member medical group practices, the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) would like to thank you for the introduction of the Medicare Sequester COVID Moratorium Act (H.R. 8840). This legislation will provide relief to medical group practices as they continue to treat patients during this unprecedented pandemic and try to remain financially viable.

The CARES Act afforded much-needed relief to medical groups by placing a temporary moratorium on the Medicare sequester. Unfortunately, the Medicare sequestration cuts are scheduled to return Jan. 1, 2021 and the COVID-19 pandemic only continues to worsen. The sequester, coupled with the 10% decrease to the CY 2021 Medicare conversion factor, the added expenses associated with procuring and supplying personal protective equipment (PPE), and the postponement or cancellation of elective and non-urgent procedures due to rising cases, continues to put a significant financial strain on medical group practices that are trying to keep the doors open to their patients. A delay of the Medicare sequester through the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency is critical for our country's physician practices to remain viable in the face of such serious financial challenges.

With a membership of more than 55,000 medical practice administrators, executives, and leaders, MGMA represents more than 15,500 organizations across the country comprised of all specialties. Our diverse membership situates MGMA in the unique position of assessing how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected group practices of all sizes and specialty compositions. The substantial economic hardships experienced by group practices cannot be overlooked.

Again, we thank you for the introduction of the Medicare Sequester COVID Moratorium Act and your leadership on this issue. We look forward to working with you and your congressional colleagues to ensure swift passage of this critical legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Claire Ernst at cernst@mgma.org or 202-293-3450.

Regards,

/s/

Anders Gilberg, MGA Senior Vice President, Government Affairs