



April 6, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Support of H.R. 2—the *Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015***

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Reid:

As members of the Healthcare Quality Coalition (HQC), we are writing to express support for H.R. 2, the *Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015*. Recently, this bi-partisan bill overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives which permanently repeals the flawed Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula in Medicare physician payments and creates incentives for providers and systems to be rewarded for high quality, efficient care.

We believe value-based payment policies can drive better quality, improve efficiency, and reduce overall costs for the Medicare program. The core policy of H.R. 2 includes a number of provisions aimed at driving value in a predominantly volume-based system. We cannot wait further to reform a Medicare physician payment system that currently rewards volume, with tools and initiatives to reward quality and efficiency. These important policy provisions as part of H.R. 2 are the product of extensive input and consensus-building resulting in strong bi-partisan, bi-cameral support.

As members of the HQC, we support H.R. 2 and commend your leadership in crafting policies to permanently repeal the flawed SGR and replace with physician payment initiatives to reward value. We urge you to urgently pass this bill upon returning to session.

Sincerely,

The Healthcare Quality Coalition

Mission: “The HQC strives to transition healthcare delivery and payment from wasteful, volume-driven incentives to a value-based (higher quality, lower cost) system. The HQC advocates advancing healthcare payment policies that encourage high value care and appropriately compensate for outcomes through measureable quality and cost criteria.”

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**Members (alphabetical)**

**Aurora Health Care**

*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

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**Essentia Health**

*Duluth, Minnesota*

[www.essentiahealth.org](http://www.essentiahealth.org)

**HealthPartners**

*Bloomington, Minnesota*

[www.healthpartners.com](http://www.healthpartners.com)

**Iowa Medical Society**

*Des Moines, Iowa*

[www.iowamedical.org](http://www.iowamedical.org)

**Marshfield Clinic Health System**

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[www.marshfieldclinic.org](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org)

**McFarland Clinic PC**

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[www.mcfarlandclinic.com](http://www.mcfarlandclinic.com)

**Minnesota Hospital Association**

*St. Paul, Minnesota*

[www.mnhospitals.org](http://www.mnhospitals.org)

**Oregon Association of Hospitals  
and Health Systems**

*Lake Oswego, Oregon*

[www.oahhs.org](http://www.oahhs.org)

**ThedaCare**

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[www.thedacare.org](http://www.thedacare.org)

**Wisconsin Health and Educational  
Facilities Authority**

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[www.whefa.com](http://www.whefa.com)

**Wisconsin Medical Society**

*Madison, Wisconsin*

[www.wisconsinmedicalsociety.org](http://www.wisconsinmedicalsociety.org)

**Billings Clinic**

*Billings, Montana*

[www.billingsclinic.com](http://www.billingsclinic.com)

**Gundersen Health System**

*La Crosse, Wisconsin*

[www.gundersenhealth.org](http://www.gundersenhealth.org)

**Hospital Sisters Health System**

*Springfield, Illinois*

[www.hshs.org](http://www.hshs.org)

**The Iowa Clinic**

*West Des Moines, Iowa*

[www.iowaclinic.com](http://www.iowaclinic.com)

**Mayo Clinic**

*Rochester, Minnesota*

[www.mayoclinic.org](http://www.mayoclinic.org)

**Mercy Health**

*Cincinnati, Ohio*

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**Minnesota Medical Association**

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

[www.mnmed.org](http://www.mnmed.org)

**Rural Wisconsin Health  
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**Wisconsin Collaborative for  
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[www.wchq.org](http://www.wchq.org)

**Wisconsin Hospital Association**

*Madison, Wisconsin*

[www.wha.org](http://www.wha.org)

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