

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations, and dedicated to promoting, protecting, and defending America's free enterprise system, supports H.R. 2, the "Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015," which would repeal the faulty Medicare sustainable growth rate (SGR). The Chamber has long supported fixing Medicare's SGR formula and implementing new reimbursement models that reward quality and efficiency.

Our country has spent over two decades avoiding the damage that this ill-constructed payment formulary would inflict through multiple short-term "patches" totaling nearly \$170 billion. By passing H.R. 2, the House would move the country closer than ever to finally ending this cycle and allow a five-year period of stability with an improved Medicare payment formula for doctors. Repealing the SGR would protect seniors' access to their physicians and strengthen the Medicare program over the longer term. In addition, the Chamber commends the House for beginning to rein in unsustainable entitlement programs and starting to address our serious long-term fiscal challenges.

The Chamber is particularly encouraged by the bipartisan cooperation in developing this legislation, and congratulates the Leaders and Committee chairmen for developing it in this fashion. We hope this will be a model for other key issues this year. The Chamber thanks those involved for tackling this long-standing problematic payment formula and supports House passage of H.R. 2.

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten