

February 6, 2025

The Honorable Darin LaHood U.S. House of Representatives

Re: MGMA's Support for the Preserving Patient Access to Accountable Care Act

Dear Representative LaHood:

On behalf of our member medical group practices, the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) writes to thank you for introducing the *Preserving Patient Access to Accountable Care Act*. With a membership of more than 60,000 medical practice administrators, executives, and leaders, MGMA represents more than 15,000 group medical practices ranging from small private medical practices to large national health systems representing more than 350,000 physicians. MGMA's diverse membership uniquely situates us to offer the following recommendations. We emphatically support this vital legislation and urge Congress to pass it as soon as possible.

At the end of 2024, Congress allowed the alternative payment method (APM) incentive bonus to expire, leaving medical groups without the funding they need to invest in technology and staffing as they transition to value-based care. Additionally, the qualifying participant (QP) thresholds have increased for 2025 to an unreachably high level which undercuts the ability of many medical groups to succeed in APMs. Given these challenges, it comes as no surprise that based on MGMA data from January 2025, less than half of medical group practice leaders are optimistic about the future of value-based care.¹

Extending the incentive payment at 3.53% and freezing the QP thresholds will allow medical groups to successfully continue and grow their participation in APMs in 2025 and beyond. It is imperative that Congress act swiftly to ensure APMs remain a viable option for practices to participate in value-based care.

We look forward to working with your office to help pass this important bill and appreciate your longstanding leadership supporting medical group practices' ability to offer high-quality care. If you have any questions, please contact Madison Hynes, Associate Director of Government Affairs, at mhynes@mgma.org or 202-558-0972.

Sincerely,

/s/

Anders M. Gilberg Senior Vice President, Government Affairs

¹ MGMA Stat Poll, *Less than half of practice leaders have positive outlook on value-based care in 2025*, February 2, 2025, <u>https://www.mgma.com/mgma-stat/less-than-half-of-practice-leaders-positive-outlook-value-based-care-2025</u>.