

June 23, 2025

The Honorable John Thune Majority Leader United States Senate Room S-309, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable John Barrasso, MD Majority Whip United States Senate Room S-208, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

## Dear Leader Thune and Majority Whip Barrasso:

The American College of Radiology (ACR), a professional association representing more than 40,000 physicians practicing diagnostic radiology, interventional radiology, radiation oncology, and nuclear medicine, as well as medical physicists across the United States, urges you to reconsider advancing the One Big Beautiful Bill Act without any provisions addressing Medicare physician payment.

This legislation is an opportunity to achieve many of the priorities of this Administration, but we find the omission of addressing Medicare physician payment concerns untenable. Congress has recognized the need for short- and long-term Medicare physician payment reform and provided relief via a series of short-term patches, the last of which expired on January 1, 2025. Even with Congressional action, when adjusted for inflation, Medicare physician payment has declined 33% from 2001-2025. It is becoming exceedingly difficult for our members to continue to provide quality care to their patients while simultaneously contending with a payment system that does not keep pace with the true cost of running a medical practice.

We urge you to seize this opportunity and include provisions that address the need for immediate and long-term Medicare physician payment reform, while helping to stabilize patient access to this vital program.

Sincerely.

D Smitherman

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