

March 24, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Chairman  
Ways & Means Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sandy Levin  
Ranking Member  
Ways & Means Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman  
Energy & Commerce Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member  
Energy & Commerce Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: AANP Supports and Calls for Passage of (H.R. 2) the “Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015”**

Dear Speaker Boehner, Minority Leader Pelosi, Chairman Ryan, Ranking Member Levin, Chairman Upton & Ranking Member Pallone:

The American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP), representing the more than 205,000 nurse practitioners across this country, reaffirms its support and calls for the passage of HR 2 the *Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015* to replace the SGR.

This bipartisan legislation not only repeals the SGR but also creates new pathways for nurse practitioners (NPs) to participate in alternative payment and health care delivery models that would improve the quality and stability of our health care system. AANP would like to specifically point out and voice our support for the inclusion of NPs in the first year of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS), and ensuring that NP led Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMH) are eligible to receive incentive payments for the management of patients with chronic diseases. Additionally, this legislation removes a current barrier to practice by authorizing NPs to document the face-to-face encounters they conduct with their Medicare patients when ordering certain durable medical equipment (DME). We would also like to express our appreciation for the provider neutral nature of this legislation. Now is the time to build upon past efforts and enact legislation that maximizes high-quality, patient centered care while reducing health care costs.

As you may know, nurse practitioners deliver primary, specialized and community healthcare to patients of all walks of life in every setting and region, particularly amongst the rural and medically underserved.



American Association of  
NURSE PRACTITIONERS™

*The Voice of the Nurse Practitioner®*

In addition to diagnosing and treating patients with acute and chronic illnesses, nurse practitioners focus on health promotion and disease prevention and are concerned with improving patient access to safe and cost-effective healthcare services. According to Medicare claims data, nurse practitioners are one of the largest categories of Medicare Part B provider specialties.

AANP looks forward to continuing to work with you to support and pass HR 2 the *Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015*. If you have any questions, please contact me or AANP's Vice President of Government Affairs MaryAnne Sapio at [msapio@aanp.org](mailto:msapio@aanp.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David E. Hebert".

David Hebert  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners

cc: Rep. Michael Burgess MD, Bill Sponsor