



September 23, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Capitol Building, H-230
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Democratic Leader
U.S. Capitol Building, S-221
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Continuing Resolution Provisions on Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payment Program

Dear Leaders McConnell and Schumer:

On behalf of our member medical group practices, the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) urges you to swiftly pass the Continuing Resolution (H.R. 8337) passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on Sept. 22, 2020. We are strongly supportive of provisions that modify repayment obligations for loans under the Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payment Program (APP).

We sincerely appreciate the work Congress has already done through legislation such as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which expanded the APP. This financial relief program offered critical support to group practices at the outset of the public health emergency, allowing them to keep their doors open to treat patients. However, since the CARES Act was enacted, group practices continue to face cash flow issues and we have heard significant concerns about the ability of practices to repay loans as they begin to come due.

The Continuing Resolution passed by the House would significantly improve APP repayment terms by postponing recoupment until one year after the payment is issued, reducing the per-claim recoupment amount, extending the repayment period, and reducing the interest rate from 10.25% to 4% for loans not repaid by September 2022.

We thank you for your ongoing efforts to support group practices and their clinicians. Given continuing revenue shortfalls and economic uncertainty, there remains a need for further action to preserve the viability of group practices and we respectfully request Senate enact these critical statutory fixes. If you have any questions, please contact Mollie Gelburd at mgelburd@mgma.org or 202-293-3450.

Regards,

/s/

Anders Gilberg, MGA
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs