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Coalition Representing 450,000 Physicians Applaud Ways and Means Committee for Advancing IPAB Repeal Legislation

Unelected board has power to make steep cuts to Medicare limiting seniors' access to care

WASHINGTON, DC – Today the **Physician IPAB Repeal Coalition** — 27 medical organizations, representing 450,000 physicians — applauded the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee for passing out of committee [H.R. 1190](#), the Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act. If enacted, this legislation would repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), a government board that has the power to implement steep cuts to Medicare. Sponsored by Reps. **Phil Roe** (R-Tenn.) and **Linda Sánchez** (D-Calif.), this bipartisan bill currently has over 230 cosponsors.

Created by the Affordable Care Act, the IPAB is a board of 15 unelected and largely unaccountable individuals whose primary purpose is to cut Medicare — a mission that, under the guise of controlling costs, will deny patients timely access to care and will undercut efforts to implement long-term, structural improvements to the Medicare payment system. Moreover, the IPAB sets a dangerous precedent by allowing such drastic changes to be made while circumventing the regular legislative process.

In their [letter](#) supporting passage of the legislation out of committee, the coalition pointed out that physicians fully support efforts to stabilize Medicare and make our healthcare system more affordable, but the IPAB is simply the wrong solution for addressing these challenges. The IPAB is yet another arbitrary cost-containment system that will only exacerbate an already stressed system and it must be repealed.

We look forward to working with Congress to gain passage of the Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act this year.

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Members of the Physician IPAB Repeal Coalition include: Alliance of Specialty Medicine • American Academy of Dermatology Association • American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery • American Academy of Neurology • American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery • American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists • American Association of Neurological Surgeons • American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons • American College of Emergency Physicians • American College of Mohs Surgeons • American College of Radiology • American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists • American Gastroenterological Association • American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association • American Society of Anesthesiologists • American Society of Breast Surgeons • American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery • American Society of Echocardiography • American Society of Nuclear Cardiology • American Society of Plastic Surgeons • American Urological Association • Cardiology Advocacy Alliance • Congress of Neurological Surgeons • Heart Rhythm Society • Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions • Society for Vascular Surgery • Society of Gynecologic Oncology