



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
PLASTIC SURGEONS®



THE PLASTIC SURGERY  
FOUNDATION™

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February 13, 2017

The Honorable David P. Roe  
336 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: H.R.849 – Protecting Seniors’ Access to Medicare Act of 2017**

Dear Representative Roe:

The American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) is the largest association of plastic surgeons in the world, representing more than 7,000 members and 94 percent of all American Board of Plastic Surgery board-certified plastic surgeons in the United States. Plastic surgeons provide highly skilled surgical services that improve both the functional capacity and quality of life of patients. These services include the treatment of congenital deformities, burn injuries, traumatic injuries, hand conditions, and cancer. ASPS promotes the highest quality patient care, professional and ethical standards, and supports the education, research, and public service activities of plastic surgeons. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on our support for your legislation, H.R.849, the *Protecting Seniors’ Access to Medicare Act of 2017*.

The American Society of Plastic Surgeons strongly opposes the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) and greatly appreciates your efforts to repeal this Board created under the Affordable Care Act. We are very concerned that IPAB will cut provider reimbursement without ensuring that Medicare beneficiaries receive quality care from skilled providers. These actions would have a great regional and national impact with too little oversight, which is very worrisome as it may lead to serious, unintended consequences for both patients and physicians.

ASPS appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the *Protecting Seniors’ Access to Medicare Act* and looks forward to working with you to advance this legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact Patrick Hermes, Senior Manager of Advocacy and Government Affairs, with any questions – [Phermes@plasticsurgery.org](mailto:Phermes@plasticsurgery.org) or (847) 228-3331.

Sincerely,

Debra Johnson, MD  
President, American Society of Plastic Surgeons