





October 8, 2019

The Honorable Suzan DelBene 2330 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ami Bera 1727 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Mike Kelly 1707 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Roger Marshall 312 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R.3107 – the Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act

Dear Representatives DelBene, Kelly, Bera, and Marshall:

I am writing on behalf of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) in strong support of H.R.3107, the *Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act*, which would improve the administration and use of prior authorization under the Medicare Advantage program. ASPS is the largest association of plastic surgeons in the world, representing more than 7,000 members and 93 percent of all board-certified plastic surgeons in the United States. Our members are highly skilled surgeons who improve both the functional capacity and quality of life for patients, including treatment of congenital deformities, burn injuries, traumatic injuries, hand conditions, and cancer reconstruction. Our mission is to advance quality care for plastic surgery patients and promote public policy that protects patient safety.

Due to the need for general advances in the area of prior authorization and specifically in the Medicare Advantage program, this legislation is imperative to achieving one of the medical community's overarching goals: Using technology to streamline care delivery while reducing administrative burdens on physicians and other healthcare team members. Moreover, this bill is timely not only in name but also in nature as the Congressional Budget Office projects that Medicare Advantage enrollees will comprise of almost half of all Medicare enrollees within the next decade (up from one-third currently).

It is clear that many members of Congress recognize the growing Medicare enrollment numbers and we welcome your attention to this aspect of the program. Therefore, ASPS appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on H.R.3107. Please do not hesitate to contact Patrick Hermes, Director of Advocacy and Government Relations, at <a href="mailto:phermes@plasticsurgery.org">phermes@plasticsurgery.org</a> or (847) 228-3331 if there is anything we can do to help advance this legislation.

Sincerely,

Lynn Jeffers, MD, MBA, FACS

President, American Society of Plastic Surgeons