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July 9, 2025

The Part B ASP Coalition Applauds Introduction of the Protecting Patient Access to Cancer and Complex Therapies Act

Washington, DC – Today the Part B Access for Seniors and Physicians (ASP) Coalition applauded Congressmen Greg Murphy (R-NC), Adam Gray (D-CA), and Neal Dunn (R-FL) for introducing the Protecting Patient Access to Cancer and Complex Therapies Act of 2025. This critical legislation would address the untenable Medicare Part B payment cuts to healthcare providers included in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) – protecting Medicare beneficiaries' access to lifesaving therapies and <u>saving the federal government over \$3 billion</u>.

Nearly 70 million seniors and disabled Americans rely on Medicare Part B for critical medications. This bipartisan legislation means that vulnerable Americans won't have to worry about whether their physician can provide the necessary treatment in their moment of need.

The IRA granted the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) authority to negotiate certain Medicare drug prices. However, an unintended consequence of this policy is that physicians who administer in-office treatments – such as cancer treatments and therapies for complex chronic diseases – are left covering the gap between the new Maximum Fair Price and the original Average Sales Price. This shortfall is estimated to cost physicians \$56.3 billion over the next decade, putting serious pressure on the viability of their medical practices. This bill directs CMS to reimburse physicians at the Average Sales Price, while requiring manufacturers to repay the cost difference to the government. It takes providers out of the middle of the IRA's drug price negotiation process.

"Part B drug reimbursements to physicians will be crushed by consequences of the IRA's Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program, and patient access to life-saving drugs will dry up," said Congressman Greg Murphy, M.D. "We have been witnesses to the decimation of private practice medicine because of the never-ending cuts to the Medicare fee schedule. These negligent cuts further threaten the viability of oncology, rheumatology, and neurology practices. The short-sighted reimbursement formula established by the IRA for Medicare payments to physicians will be devastating, particularly for oncology patients and providers. This legislation provides a much-needed fix to ensure that patients have the continued access to care and critical drugs they need."

"As the Central Valley continues to face physician shortages, it's critical to support our rural health providers," **said Congressman Adam Gray.** "By ensuring our providers will be fairly reimbursed for prescription medications, we will protect rural health centers and those who keep our communities healthy. This bipartisan, commonsense bill will fix existing legislation to preserve provider reimbursement levels and maintain commercial access to prescription drugs for Valley families."

"Ensuring that our providers are fairly reimbursed for prescription drugs will improve patient outcomes and protect rural health centers in Northwest Florida and across the country," **said Congressman Neal Dunn.** "I'm proud to support this commonsense reform that addresses changing market dynamics to support patients and providers alike."

"As a physician, Congressman Murphy well understands the numerous pressures that independent medical practices face in keeping their doors open to treating patients," **said Ted Okon, Executive Director, Community Oncology Alliance.** "We applaud his leadership, along with Congressman Gray and Congressman Dunn, in introducing the Protecting Patient Access to Cancer and Complex Therapies Act. This technical fix to the Inflation Reduction Act will alleviate yet another reimbursement cut and administrative burden that threatens seniors' access to high-quality, affordable, and accessible cancer care and treatments for other serious diseases."

"This Protecting Patients Access to Cancer and Complex Therapies Act will ensure that cancer patients and those with complex illnesses maintain access to their physician-administered drugs," said Dr. Scott Sellinger, President of LUGPA. "Without this bipartisan legislation, LUGPA doctors and the cancer patients we serve could have been collateral damage in policies designed to reduce drug prices."

"IPA applauds Congressmen Greg Murphy, Adam Gray and Neal Dunn for reintroducing the 'Protecting Patient Access to Cancer and Complex Therapies Act' and their ongoing bipartisan leadership on this important issue," said Doug Ghertner, President, Infusion Providers Alliance. "This critical legislation will ensure that patients with complex illnesses, such as multiple sclerosis, Crohn's disease, arthritis and many orphan conditions, maintain access to their infused or injected medications to treat those conditions in IPA members convenient, community based, non-hospital settings. This legislation addresses an unintended consequence of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which will significantly reduce physician reimbursement in the effort to lower drug prices. By protecting physician practices and infusion providers from steep cuts to their reimbursement for the administration of infusion drugs, Congress can ensure that it achieves its desired level of cost savings without compromising patient access."

The Part B ASP Coalition represents over 300 patient and provider organizations across the country. For more information, please visit www.PartBAccess.org.