

March 26, 2014

The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman
House Ways and Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Camp,

On behalf of the American Society of Nephrology (ASN), thanks to you and your staff for your continued dedication and investment in the permanent repeal of the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR). ASN and its nearly 15,000 physicians, scientists and other healthcare providers are dedicated to helping pass this vital legislation through Congress.

ASN is committed to providing the highest quality of care to patients with kidney disease and to developing future cures for kidney diseases. ASN and the professionals it represents are dedicated to maintaining the integrity of the physician-patient relationship, and to providing equitable patient access to optimal quality, efficient care, regardless of socioeconomic status, geographic location, or demographic characteristics.

Like you, ASN is devoted to a permanent repeal of SGR, and believes the time for temporary, patchwork fixes is over. ASN has been working actively with our membership, other medical societies and members of Congress to advocate repeal and replacement of the SGR. ASN recognizes the vital necessity of ensuring the long-term fiscal viability of the Medicare Program and appreciates that replacing the current physician payment system with a more stable, predictable system is the only long term solution. ASN continues to stand ready to assist you and your staff any way necessary to further this goal before the March 31, 2014 deadline.

Thank you once again for your persistence on this crucial patient care issue topic. To discuss ASN's comments, or if there is anything else that ASN can do to support you and your staff, please contact ASN Manager of Policy and Government Affairs Rachel N. Meyer at rmeyer@asn-online.org or at (202) 640-4659.

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Hostetter, MD
Chair, ASN Public Policy Board