



ALLIANCE FOR INTEGRITY IN MEDICARE

PARTNERS IN THE COALITION



August 1, 2013

The Honorable Jackie Speier
U.S. House of Representatives
211 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Speier:

On behalf of the members of the Alliance for Integrity in Medicare (AIM) — a broad coalition of medical specialty, laboratory, radiation oncology, and medical imaging groups committed to ending the practice of inappropriate physician self-referral — we thank you for introducing *The Promoting Integrity in Medicare Act of 2013*.

AIM strongly supports your legislation, which addresses a critical issue affecting patients, providers, and the integrity of the Medicare program: ongoing self-referral practices in advanced diagnostic imaging, anatomic pathology, physical therapy, and radiation therapy. By removing these four services from the in-office ancillary services exception (IOAS) under the self-referral law, your legislation will realign provider incentives, which is in the best interests of Medicare beneficiaries, taxpayers, and the American health care system overall.

The Promoting Integrity in Medicare Act of 2013 reflects the findings of the Government Accountability Office, the Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and academic studies, as well as several bipartisan groups such as the Moment of Truth Project and the Bipartisan Policy Group. All of these findings point to the need to narrow the IOAS exception. If this legislation is enacted, the Medicare program will save billions of dollars, while the ability of all providers to render the highest-quality, safest, and most-appropriate care to all patients will be preserved.

AIM applauds your continued leadership on this important issue, as well as the tireless work of your staffer, Erin Ryan, and stands ready to assist you in any way necessary.

Sincerely,

The Alliance for Integrity in Medicare

*American Clinical Laboratory Association
American College of Radiology
American Physical Therapy Association
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Radiation Oncology
Association for Quality Imaging
College of American Pathologists
Radiology Business Management Association*