



American  
Clinical Laboratory  
Association

April 20, 2015

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Chairman  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1106 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

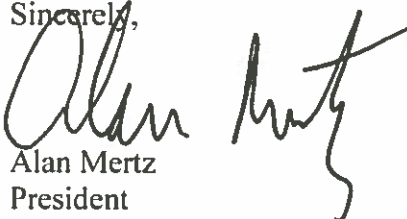
Dear Chairman Ryan and Ranking Member Levin:

As the Committee considers *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Act*, we oppose the inclusion of an increase in the Medicare sequester in 2024 as an offset. The American Clinical Laboratory Association (ACLA) is a not-for-profit association representing the nation's leading providers of clinical laboratory and anatomic pathology services, including national, regional, and esoteric laboratories. Our members provide clinicians across the nation with the critical data necessary to diagnose and treat acute and chronic conditions experienced by Medicare beneficiaries daily. This vital information allows treatments to be tailored to meet the specific needs of each beneficiary in a timely way, which allows not only for improved outcomes for patients, but also saves the program and the nation's health care system overall from unnecessary downstream costs.

Our opposition with the proposed increase in the Medicare sequester stems from the potential negative impact on beneficiary access to clinical laboratory services that could result from additional cuts in reimbursement. Congress has levied numerous and significant Medicare provider cuts time and time again. Targeting the health care community for yet another cut to pay for policy changes in an unrelated area, we believe sets an imprudent precedent.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views. ACLA looks forward to continuing to work with you on constructive Medicare policies, which enhance and strengthen the ability of the Medicare program to meet the needs of beneficiaries, and do not negatively impact clinical laboratories as well as the clinicians and patients they serve.

Sincerely,



Alan Mertz  
President



American  
Clinical Laboratory  
Association

April 20, 2015

The Honorable Orrin Hatch  
Chairman  
Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

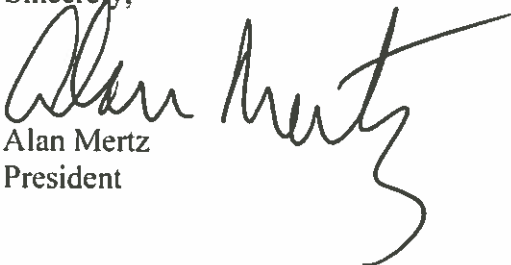
Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

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Alan Mertz  
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