The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune Senate Majority Leader U.S. Senate S-230, the Capitol Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Chuck Schumer Senate Minority Leader U.S. Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries House Democratic Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-204, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, and Leader Jeffries:

The undersigned physician organizations representing national medical societies and state medical associations write to urge Congress to enact legislation to extend the enhanced advance premium tax credits (APTCs) established under section 36B(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

These enhanced credits have made health coverage more affordable for the more than 24 million Americans who purchased coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplaces in 2025, including many who are older, live in rural areas, or operate small businesses. For these individuals, the credits are a key means of securing comprehensive coverage, as the credits are only available to individuals who do not have access to such coverage outside of the Health Insurance Marketplaces.

Without congressional action, millions of Americans will face significant increases in their annual premiums, and the Congressional Budget Office <u>projects</u> that 4.2 million people will lose coverage entirely. The financial consequences are substantial:

- A family of four earning \$64,000 annually would see the amount they pay for insurance coverage rise by approximately \$2,600 in 2026.
- A 60-year-old couple with an income of \$80,000 would see an increase of about \$17,500 annually.

Even individuals who are not eligible for APTCs will be affected by their expiration, as the enhanced APTC <u>drew</u> healthier people into the insurance marketplaces, improving the risk pool and lowering premiums overall.

These increases will be evident to consumers as soon as marketplace "window shopping" begins in the fall of 2025, well ahead of the 2026 open enrollment period. Many current enrollees are already receiving insurer notices that project steep premium increases if the credits are not extended.

Extending the enhanced APTCs will continue to lower premiums across income levels, mitigate financial barriers to care, and sustain enrollment in the marketplaces. Allowing them to expire would reverse these gains, increase the uninsured rate, and raise uncompensated care costs for hospitals and physician practices nationwide.

We respectfully urge Congress to act in a timely manner so that marketplaces, insurers, and consumers have certainty well in advance of the 2026 coverage year.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued commitment to ensuring access to affordable health coverage.

Sincerely,

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> American Medical Association Academy of Physicians in Clinical Research American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology American Academy of Emergency Medicine American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery American Academy of Family Physicians American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine American Academy of Neurology American Academy of Ophthalmology American Academy of Pediatrics American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons American Association of Public Health Physicians American College of Cardiology American College of Chest Physicians American College of Emergency Physicians American College of Gastroenterology American College of Lifestyle Medicine American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists American College of Physicians American College of Radiology American College of Surgeons American Epilepsy Society American Geriatrics Society American Osteopathic Association American Psychiatric Association American Society for Clinical Pathology American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy American Society for Surgery of the Hand Professional Organization American Society of Addiction Medicine American Society of Anesthesiologists American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery American Society of Hematology American Society of Neuroradiology American Society of Plastic Surgeons American Urological Association American Medical Group Association Association for Clinical Oncology Association of American Medical Colleges Medical Group Management Association National Association of Medical Examiners National Association of Spine Specialists Renal Physicians Association Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine

> > Medical Association of the State of Alabama

The National Association of Medical Examiners

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> Alaska State Medical Association Arizona Medical Association Arkansas Medical Society California Medical Association Colorado Medical Society Connecticut State Medical Society Medical Society of Delaware Medical Society of the District of Columbia Florida Medical Association Medical Association of Georgia Hawaii Medical Association Idaho Medical Association Illinois State Medical Society Indiana State Medical Association Iowa Medical Society Kentucky Medical Association Louisiana State Medical Society Maine Medical Association MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society Massachusetts Medical Society Michigan State Medical Society Minnesota Medical Association Mississippi State Medical Association Missouri State Medical Association Montana Medical Association Nebraska Medical Association Nevada State Medical Association New Hampshire Medical Society Medical Society of New Jersey New Mexico Medical Society Medical Society of the State of New York North Dakota Medical Association Ohio State Medical Association Oklahoma State Medical Association Oregon Medical Association Pennsylvania Medical Society Rhode Island Medical Society South Dakota State Medical Association Tennessee Medical Association Texas Medical Association Vermont Medical Society The Medical Society of Virginia Washington State Medical Association West Virginia State Medical Association Wisconsin Medical Society

> > Wyoming Medical Society