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The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-221 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

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

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Speaker Pelosi:

On behalf of Doctors for America and its 17,000 physicians and medical student members, we want to thank you for your continued work to build a better health care system. The Affordable Care Act was a historic step forward for the health of the nation and HR 4213, the "American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act," is important companion legislation that will aid in the successful implementation of the Affordable Care Act's provisions.

HR 4213 stops the unrealistic pay cut created by the Sustainable Growth Rate formula ("SGR") and creates the opportunity to provide higher growth targets for primary care and preventive services. As such, we urge immediate approval of HR 4213 by the House and Senate.

This legislation will ensure continued access to care for Medicare beneficiaries and allow for continued investment in primary care and preventive care – the cornerstone for much of the Affordable Care Act. Both elements are critical at a time when physicians and other health care professionals will likely see increased demand for services as more Americans get covered by insurance.

While HR 4213 is not a permanent solution for the SGR, we believe it is a positive step forward. We look forward to working with you in the years ahead to identify and implement additional policies that will continue to provide fair and equitable compensation for physicians.

We are optimistic that HR 4213 will promote the successful implementation the reforms included in the Affordable Care Act and we are encouraging our members to contact their Congressional Representative to urge them to pass HR 4213 immediately.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Vivek Murthy
President, Doctors for America