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March 15, 2024

The Honorable Michael Burgess, MD  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Diana DeGette  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Benjamin Cardin  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Angus King  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin Cramer  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representatives Burgess and DeGette and Senators Cardin, Crapo, King and Cramer,

On behalf of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), I would like to thank you for introducing H.R. 766/S. 114, the Preventive Health Savings Act. This important legislation would direct the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) to more accurately reflect the long-term, cost-saving potential of preventive healthcare initiatives.

Founded in 1964, STS is a not-for-profit organization representing more than 7,700 surgeons, researchers, and allied healthcare professionals worldwide who are dedicated to ensuring the best possible outcomes for surgeries of the heart, lungs, and esophagus, as well as other surgical procedures within the chest.

We appreciate your leadership on this legislation because our specialty sees firsthand the importance of preventative healthcare. There is a need for legislation that prioritizes preventative healthcare, and the path to achieve that is by reforming CBO scores to reflect long-term healthcare cost savings. Currently, CBO scores are determined by only evaluating the costs and savings to the federal government over a 10-year window. This approach does not account for the economic benefits associated with improved long-term health that occurs outside of the 10-year window, enabled by preventative health interventions and early detection. Expanding CBO calculations past the 10-year window would enable evaluating the long-term savings that are possible through preventative health services, allowing CBO to better predict the economic impact on the federal government.

Thank you once again for your commitment to this issue which impacts both the legislative process and public health. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to move

this legislation forward. Please contact Molly Peltzman, Associate Director of Health Policy, at [mpeltzman@sts.org](mailto:mpeltzman@sts.org), or Derek Brandt, Vice President of Government Affairs, at [dbrandt@sts.org](mailto:dbrandt@sts.org), should you need additional information or clarification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Romano". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Romano, MD  
President