Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

September 22, 2016

Dear Colleague:

As you know, seniors on Medicare currently face the prospect of an out-of-pocket expense totaling hundreds of dollars if a polyp is removed during a screening colonoscopy that is supposed to be free. Despite coverage for those with private insurance, for cost-sensitive seniors this potential expense can be a deterrent to getting their recommended colorectal cancer screening. Importantly, reducing disincentives for screenings will improve health outcomes and save money for both seniors and taxpayers.

For this reason, we introduced HR 1220, the Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act and are proud to say that this legislation is bipartisan and supported by a majority of the members of the U.S. House of Representatives. As a cosponsor of H.R. 1220, we ask that you join with us in sending the attached letter to leadership asking that the bill come up for consideration before the end of the 114th Congress.

Colonoscopies can save lives with the removal of polyps. That's why seniors need to get screened and why they should not face any unexpected expenses.

For any questions or to sign this letter, please contact Caitlin Wilson in Congressman Dent's office at <u>Caitlin.Wilson@mail.house.gov</u> or Tom Saunders in Congressman Payne, Jr.'s office at <u>Thomas.Saunders@mail.house.gov</u>.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Dent

Member of Congress

Donald M. Payner. Member of Congress