**\* \* \*CCMS MEMBER ALERT \* \* \***

**URGENT ACTION NEEDED BY DEC. 17 -- REPEAL OF S.C. CON LAW**

**Fellow Charleston County Medical Society physicians,**

**As you are aware, full repeal of the SC Certificate of Need regulations is a primary advocacy issue for the CCMS and the SCMA. As a direct result of our efforts, Senator Wes Climer’s bill S.290 to fully repeal CON will be discussed in the full Senate in the upcoming legislative session in January.**

**There is a great deal of momentum** **going into this legislative session** with other influential organizations also supporting repeal – Blue Cross Blue Shield SC, several medical specialty groups, Palmetto Promise, Americans for Prosperity and the Coalition to Repeal CON. Supporting testimony and resources from Mercatus Center, Institute for Justice, Cato institute have also been helpful.

***WE NEED YOUR HELP: Physician and patient experiences will be crucial to maintain this momentum and pass the bill.******Senator Climer has asked for stories from physicians and patients that demonstrate the negative impacts of CON.******If you have a story to contribute about a CON*** *that your practice may have applied for but has been denied, equipment or services you would offer your patients but for a costly and time-consuming CON battle, lack of access to care due to CON (long wait times for ORs, lack of access to ambulatory surgery centers, etc), or more costly care due to CON (patients/insurers having to pay for more costly sites of care due to lack of alternatives),* ***PLEASE SEND IT TO US. These stories will be a VITAL part of our support for S.290.***

**BY FRIDAY, DEC. 17, 2021, we urgently request that physicians (or your office/business managers on your behalf) and patients personally convey their CON stories to:**

**Holly Pisarik, the SCMA Senior VP of Advocacy and Policy Counsel,** either in writing via email at ***holly@scmedical.org***, or if more convenient, by calling her directly at ***803-543-4894*.**

Thank you,

Dr. Cleave Ham                              Dr. Marcelo Hochman

CCMS President                           CCMS Immediate Past-President & Chair, Legislative Committee