



Senator Kyrsten Sinema
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support for FIND Act

Dear Senator Sinema,

We here at the Arizona Medical Association and the rest of the Arizona Healthcare Advocacy Coalition are proud to join the Mayo Clinic Department of Radiology, the Michael J. Fox Foundation and countless others in supporting the Facilitating Access to Innovative Diagnostics (or FIND) Act.

This legislation will reduce barriers to care that patients and their physicians are facing when it comes to radiopharmaceuticals. Currently, Medicare is burdened with the packaged payment model, which bundles the reimbursement for radiopharmaceuticals with other services. Because of this outdated policy, hospitals are often forced to make a choice between covering the high costs of radiopharmaceuticals or simply not providing the services. Sadly, the latter is becoming more common since the financial burden is simply too much to bear.

Radiopharmaceuticals are playing a critical role in diagnosing and treating some of this country's most devastating conditions, including Alzheimer's, prostate and breast cancer, and cardiovascular disease. Their tools have allowed physicians to better locate tumors in the body and have led to successful roadmaps in how to best treat a patient. Limiting the opportunity for these advanced treatments does a disservice to both the provider, and most importantly, the patient.

Furthermore, the current packaged reimbursement system severely hampers and discourages the development and utilization of innovative radiopharmaceuticals, hindering progress in medical research and treatment options. When faced with a life-altering diagnosis, patients in need of radiopharmaceuticals deserve to have access to often lifesaving resources. That choice is sadly being made for them with current policy.

The solution found in the FIND Act is simple and the results would be life-altering. This legislation separates payments for advanced innovative diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals in the Hospital Outpatient setting, which will lead to its greater widespread use in diagnosing diseases earlier. Radiopharmaceuticals are just a piece of the groundbreaking innovation we have to fight the deadliest diseases, and this is the chance for leaders like yourself to join the fight. The Arizona Medical Association, the Arizona Radiological Society, and our partners at the Arizona Healthcare Advocacy Coalition (AHAC) strongly encourage you to cosponsor this important legislation that will directly impact Arizona lives. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. For correspondence on the issue, please contact Amanda Sheinson at asheinson@azmed.org

Sincerely,

Arizona Healthcare Advocacy Coalition: Arizona Medical Association | American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, AZ Chapter | Arizona Radiological Society | Arizona Society of Anesthesiologists | Pima County Medical Society | Arizona Psychiatric Society | Arizona Latin American Medical Association | Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association | Arizona Ophthalmological Association | American College of Physicians, Arizona Chapter | Arizona Association for Allergy and Asthma | Arizona Urological Society