



TAKE ACTION NOW!! Urge congress to repeal the Medicare SGR and protect Medi-Cal from further cuts in congressional deficit committee legislation

Congress has appointed a Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction to develop \$1.5 trillion in spending cuts/revenue increases by Thanksgiving. On January 1, 2012, physicians face a 30 percent Medicare SGR payment cut. Moreover, organized medicine has been working for a decade to repeal the flawed Medicare SGR payment formula. The Deficit Committee may be our last chance to eliminate the SGR once and for all. Moreover, physicians continue to face deep cuts in the Medi-Cal program. The California Medical Association (CMA) believes that stable reimbursement in these programs not only protects access to care but also makes economic sense as physicians are important employers in their communities and repealing the SGR saves hundreds of billions of dollars.

It is urgent that you write and call your Representatives and Senators today. Also ask them to co-sign a Dear Colleague letter from Congress to the Deficit Committee urging the SGR be repealed in the Deficit legislation. The letter is being circulated by Rep. Schwartz (D-PA).

CONTACT CONGRESS TODAY!

PLEASE SEND A MESSAGE to your Representative and Senators Boxer and Feinstein via email through <http://writerep.house.gov>; www.boxer.senate.gov and www.feinstein.senate.gov. Also contact Congressman Becerra (D-LA), a member of the Deficit Committee at www.becerra.house.gov.

We also need you to send messages to our California Representatives who are in leadership positions: House Whip-Congressman Kevin McCarthy www.kevinmccarthy.house.gov; and House Minority Leader-Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi www.pelosi.house.gov.

A sample letter is attached to send via email or via regular mail to the district offices only. See the CMA website for the list of Representatives/Senators and their district addresses.

AND PLEASE CALL your Representative and Senators Boxer and Feinstein by using the **AMA Grassroots Hotline at (800) 833-6354**. Plug in your zip code and you will be connected to your Senator/Representative. Please state your name, specialty and city/county in which you practice. Please urge them to:

- Repeal the Medicare SGR in the deficit committee legislation
- Stop further Medi-Cal physician payment cuts
- Please cosign the Medicare SGR Dear Colleague letter
- Protect access to care for California's most vulnerable patients:
- Seniors, military families, the disabled, pregnant women and children

ALSO ASK YOUR PATIENTS TO CALL by downloading the patient poster/flyer from the CMA website.

ADVOCACY MATERIALS-TALKING POINTS: Additional information is on the CMA website at [CMA SGR Resources](#)

Questions/comments, please contact Elizabeth McNeil, California Medical Association Vice President, Federal Government Relations, emcneil@cmanet.org.

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