
Subject: Florida MGMA Legislative Update: IPAB Repeal Legislation - Act now

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Yesterday, the House Energy and Commerce Committee and Ways and Means Committee, two committees with jurisdiction over Medicare Part B, are holding hearings on [H.R. 849](#), the Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act of 2017, which would **repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB)** created under the Affordable Care Act. Under current law, the IPAB will be triggered when the growth rate in Medicare exceeds target growth rates (as reported by CMS' Office of the Actuary), and will be responsible for recommending to Congress spending reductions in the Medicare program in order to reduce growth below the target growth rate. Although there have been no members appointed to the IPAB, if the IPAB is triggered, the Secretary of HHS is required to stand in place of the board and submit a proposal for reducing Medicare spending. Any proposal, whether from IPAB or HHS, is subject to a "fast track" legislative implementation process with virtually no oversight, leaving little-to-no room for recourse once IPAB-mandated payment cuts are implemented.

It is paramount that members of Congress act now, before future actuary reports trigger the IPAB and activate payment reductions to Medicare providers. Given the timeliness of the House Committee meetings this week, I wanted to remind everyone that we have a template message supporting IPAB repeal. **I encourage all of you to share this information with your state membership and ask them to visit the [MGMA Advocacy Center](#)**, where they can contact lawmakers and urge them to support this important legislation. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any

questions, and thank you in advance for your support on this important cause!

Larry Huff, CMPE
Florida MGMA Legislative Liaison



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