

ACT NOW: MEDICARE CUTS SAFE FOR ONLY 30 DAYS

WE NEED YOU TO WRITE AND CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AND SENATORS ASKING THEM TO FIX 21% MEDICARE / TRICARE CUT.

Unless Congress changes current law, Medicare and TRICARE payments to doctors will be reduced 21% effective April 1, 2010. (The March 1st cut has been delayed 30 days due to legislation passed recently. The Military Coalition is calling for 7 additional months to be granted so that a more appropriate course of action can be planned). Without relief, such dramatic payments cuts will cause many doctors to stop seeing Medicare and TRICARE patients.

The Medicare reimbursement schedule calls for these cuts to take place. We need to do everything we can to stall this process so that a better solution can be found. The goal is to have more Doctors accepting Medicare patients, not less.

The following statement is a sample of what you should be sending to your Representative or Senators!

AFSA needs you to act IMMEDIATELY to stop the 21% cut in Medicare/TRICARE payments to doctors now scheduled to take effect on April 1, 2010.

Unless you act now, millions of seniors and military beneficiaries risk having their doctors stop seeing them, and thousands of stroke/accident victims will start bumping against the therapy cap.

For example, Medicare can only pay \$1860 in outpatient fees per calendar year for speech, occupational, and physical therapy. Stroke/accident victims will quickly reach that level, and if this cut goes into effect we will have thousands of patients reaching the cap and having to pay out of pocket for the rest of the year.

So AFSA urgently needs you to ACT NOW to reverse the 21% payment cut and preserve essential health care access for millions of seniors and military families.