



Congressman Ted Poe
2nd District of Texas



COSPONSORED LEGISLATION

110th Congress

Updated February 29, 2008

Healthcare

H.R. 1845, The Medicare Durable Medical Equipment Access Act of 2007 –

Establishes guidelines for how the Secretary of Health and Human Services awards competitive contracts. Rural areas and areas of low population are exempt. After the Secretary implements the initial 10 competitive acquisition areas, the Secretary must report to Congress on the impact of competitive bidding. HR 1845 also prohibits expanding the coverage of competitive acquisition programs. *Note: Donald Sievertson, Orion Group Medical Supply, Kingwood TX requested support*

- Sponsor: Rep. Tanner, John S. (D-TN)
- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.Res. 524 - Recognizes the importance of the federal government's continued support of Diamond-Blackfan Anemia (DBA) research and that federal support of comprehensive centers for rare disease patients enhances the ability for experienced doctors to provide the most complete care for each patient. It also expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the government has a responsibility to raise awareness and to encourage research efforts of DBA.

- Sponsor: Rep. McCarthy (D-NY)
- Status: Passed House

H.R. 1479, Federal Acupuncture Coverage Act - Provides for coverage of qualified acupuncturist services and provide access to acupuncture under Medicare and the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program.

- Sponsor: Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. (D-NY)
- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 621, Home Oxygen Patient Protection Act of 2007 - Restores treatment of ownership of oxygen equipment that existed prior to the enactment of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. Repeals: (1) the limitation of Medicare payment to the supplier

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for such equipment (including portable oxygen equipment) to 36 months of continuous use; and (2) the requirement that the equipment supplier transfer title to the individual at the end of such period, with payments continuing at specified monthly rates. *Note: Donald Sievertson, Orion Group Medical Supply, Kingwood, TX requested support.*

- Sponsor: Rep. Price, Tom (R-GA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 3090, Patient and Pharmacy Protection Act of 2007 - Amends the Social Security Act to limit class II narcotics the required use of tamper-resistant prescription pads under Medicaid. Effective October 1, 2007, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations law mandates that paper prescriptions for Medicaid outpatient drugs be written on tamper-resistant pads in order to be eligible for reimbursement. While the Texas Pharmacy Association understands this provision was designed to prevent fraudulent activity and reduce government spending, the implementation date leaves little time for federal and state Medicaid officials to educate doctors and pharmacists about the new requirements. This bill would allow more time for Texas Medicaid officials to educate doctors and pharmacists in rural communities about the new requirements. Patients in need of medications could be denied medication if doctors fail to write prescriptions on “tamper resistant” paper. Therefore, Texas pharmacies would have to refuse to fill the Medicaid prescriptions.

- Sponsor: Rep. Wilson, Charles (D-OH)
- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 3584, SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 – Funding under the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) is set to expire this year. This bill would extend SCHIP funding for 18 months. The SCHIP program remains unchanged in this bill; however, this bill allows Secretary to give money on an as-needed basis to the 13 shortfall states (Alaska, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin).

- Sponsor: Rep. Barton, Joe (R-TX)
- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 2583, Physician Workforce and Graduate Medical Education Enhancement Act of 2007 - Would create an interest-free loan program for rural hospitals for residency training in family and internal medicine, as well as pediatrics, emergency medicine, and other specialties.

- Sponsor: Rep. Burgess, Michael C. (R-TX)
- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 2387, Parental Consent Act - Would forbid federal money from being used to fund a universal mental health screening program in schools without parental consent.

- Sponsor: Rep. Paul, Ron (R-TX)
- Status: Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities

H.R. 2053, Medicare Anesthesiology Teaching Funding Restoration Act of 2007 - Would set forth a special payment rule of 100% of the fee schedule amount for teaching

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anesthesiologists involved in the training of physician residents, if certain presence and availability requirements are met.

- Sponsor: Rep. Becerra, Xavier (D-CA)

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 1866, Medicare Access to Rural Anesthesiology Act of 2007 - Would allow some rural hospitals to use Medicare Part A funds on a “pass-through” basis to pay for the services of anesthesiologists. Note: They were formerly authorized to receive funds from Part A in the 1980s to attract anesthesiologists to rural areas.

- Sponsor: Rep. Cuellar, Henry (D-TX)

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 2164, Medicare Ambulance Payment Extension Act - Provides an additional 5% increase in Medicare payments for ground ambulance services furnished on or after January 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2010.

- Sponsor: Rep. McNulty, Michael R. (D-NY)

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 2147, Healthy Kids Act – Expands the State Child Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) by providing states with “financial incentives and resources” to get more kids enrolled in SCHIP and Medicaid. It would make certain that no child currently enrolled loses coverage. If states can “streamline the enrollment process,” they will get an increased federal matching rate for SCHIP. Would also make sure that kids who qualify for other assistance programs like food stamps and school lunches will automatically be enrolled in Medicaid or SCHIP. Gives families not eligible a “tax credit” to buy health insurance for their kids.

- Sponsor: Rep. Emanuel, Rahm (D-IL)

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 1823, Ambulatory Surgical Center Medicare Payment Modernization Act of 2007 - Would establish a payment rate for these services at 75% of the determined hospital outpatient department payment rate. Provides “transparency” in pricing and allows beneficiaries to compare costs. Would also require Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to list procedures that ASC’s would not be paid for instead of what they would be paid for. Reimbursement would be available for these procedures as long as the Health and Human Services Secretary cannot identify a specific risk or an overnight stay is not required.

- Sponsor: Rep. Meek, Kendrick B. (D-FL)

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 457, Cures Can Be Found Act of 2007 - Allows tax credits for donations to stem cell research or storage facilities of umbilical cord blood. Allows credits only for donations to facilities that do not engage in research on stem cells derived from human embryos.

- Sponsor: Rep Paul, Ron (R-TX)

- Status: House Committee on Ways & Means

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H.R. 1459 - Improves Medicare beneficiary access by extending the 60 percent compliance threshold used to determine whether a hospital or unit of a hospital is an inpatient rehabilitation facility.

- Sponsor: Tanner, John S. (D-TN)

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 1293, Access to Medicare Imaging Act of 2007 - Establishes a two-year moratorium on Medicare physician payment reductions for advanced diagnostic imaging services. Revises the list of covered services to include only diagnostic magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT), positron emission tomography (PET) (all covered under current law), plus nuclear cardiology procedures.

- Sponsor: Rep. McCarthy, Carolyn

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 1153, Parental Right to Decide Protection Act - Prohibits federal funds or other assistance from being made available to any state or political subdivision to establish or implement any requirement that individuals receive vaccination for human papilloma virus (HPV).

- Sponsor: Rep. Gingrey, Phil (R-GA)

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 322, Alternative Pluripotent Stem Cell Therapies Enhancement Act of 2007 – Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop techniques for the isolation, derivation, production, or testing of stem cells that are capable of producing all or almost all of the cell types of the developing body and may result in improved understanding of treatments for diseases and other adverse health conditions, but are not derived from a human embryo.

- Sponsor: Rep. Bartlett, Roscoe G. (R-MD)

- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 493, Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2007 – Prohibits discrimination by insurance companies and employers on the basis of genetic information.

- Sponsor: Rep. Slaughter, Louise (D-NY)

- Status: Passed House 420 - 3 (Roll no. 261)

H.Res. 760 - Supporting the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month.

- Sponsor: Rep. Castor, Kathy (D-FL)

- Status: Passed House

H.R. 2762 - This bill would renew the Special Diabetes Program, which has been in existence for 10 years and currently has 60,000 patients enrolled in clinical trials. If the program is not renewed this year, these trials will need to be delayed or possibly eliminated. It authorizes appropriations for \$200 million for FY 09 – FY 13 for Type I Diabetes research and diabetes prevention and treatment through Indian health facilities.

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- Sponsor: Rep. DeGette, Diana (D-CO)
- Status: House Committee on Energy and Commerce

H.R. 3533, The Public and Teaching Hospital Preservation Act - This bill extends a moratorium by one-year on a final rule that concerns the Federal-State financial relationship under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program and graduate medical education. This bill emphasizes the importance that Congress has the authority to regulate funding of public hospitals, not CMS.

- Sponsor: Rep. Engel, Eliot L. (D-NY)
- Status: Subcommittee on Health

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