

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

Provide Fairness in Health IT Payments

Become an **ORIGINAL** Co-Sponsor of Legislation to Address the "Multi-Campus" Issue

Supported by the American Hospital Association & the Association of American Medical Colleges

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to join us in a bipartisan effort to address an action taken by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that could unfairly deny some hospitals millions of dollars in incentive payments and serve as a barrier to the adoption of an electronic health record.

In 2009 the President signed into law legislation containing provisions aimed at encouraging the adoption of health information technology. The legislation provided for Medicare and Medicaid payment incentives for hospitals who are "meaningful users" of certified health records.


Unfortunately, CMS has determined that these payments should be delivered on the basis of Medicare provider numbers, not physical campuses. For hospital systems with multiple hospital campuses under the same provider number, this means a significant reduction in incentive payments that will make the development of required health IT systems more difficult.

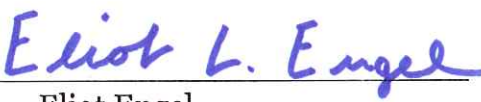
These hospitals will see implementation costs at all of their campuses, not just one. Yet, they are treated the same under the regulation as a single location facility. This does not make sense. Since hospitals that do not adopt will see significant penalties, these regulations will further strain many of our hospitals.

The Equal Access and Parity for Multi-Campus Hospitals Act would give hospitals affected by this regulation an opportunity to recover some of the payments Congress intended they receive. These hospitals could choose an additional base payments or additional per discharge amounts based on their needs.

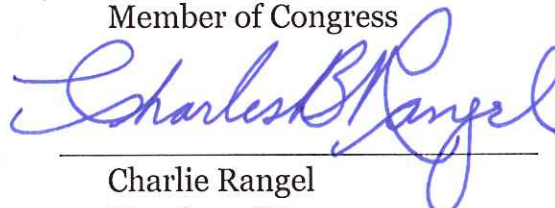
We hope you will join us in becoming an original cosponsor. Please contact J.P. Paluskiewicz James.Paluskiewicz@mail.house.gov with Congressman Burgess, Christina Batt Cristina.Batt@mail.house.gov with Rep. Engel, Andrew Wankum Andrew.Wankum@mail.house.gov with Rep. Brady or Reba Raffaelli Reba.Raffaelli@mail.house.gov with Rep. Rangel with questions.

Sincerely,


Michael C. Burgess M.D.
Member of Congress


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Member of Congress


Kevin Brady
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