

ACTION ALERT

Thursday, January 8, 2015

NEED ACTION FROM *Rural hospital leaders*
ACTION. *Contact your U.S. Representative to co-sponsor H.R. 169*
WHEN. *Immediately*
WHY *Eliminates burdensome 96-hour stay for CAHs*

H.R. 169 Will Remove Physician Certification of 96-hour Stay as a Condition of Payment for CAHs

Urge your U.S. Representative to co-sponsor this bipartisan bill

Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE) recently introduced the Critical Access Hospital Relief Act (H.R. 169), AHA-supported legislation that would remove the 96-hour physician certification requirement as a condition of payment for critical access hospitals (CAHs). Greg Walden (R-OR), David Loebsack (D-IA), Lynn Jenkins (R-KS), and Todd Young (R-IN) are original cosponsors of the legislation.

Specifically, H.R. 169 would amend the Social Security Act to remove the condition of payment, but leave the condition of participation intact. A physician would not be required to state that the patient will be discharged or transferred in less than 96 hours in order for the CAH to be paid on that particular claim. CAHs would continue to need to meet the other certification requirements that apply to all hospitals as well as the condition of participation requiring a 96-hour annual average length of stay.

Please urge your members of Congress to join as a co-sponsor of H.R. 169, the Critical Access Hospital Relief Act.

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