



**American Hospital  
Association®**

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**STATEMENT ON BUDGET/SHORT-TERM PHYSICIAN FIX**

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The AHA is deeply disappointed that the agreement extends the sequester on “mandatory” programs that includes Medicare provider payment cuts for an additional two years beyond their current expiration date in 2022 and 2023. Hospitals face a huge array of change and challenges. From electronic health records to new penalty programs and payment models to new regulatory hurdles, Congress should support these efforts rather than add uncertainty. In the absence of a serious conversation about real entitlement reform, this undermines hospitals' ability to provide access to quality health care services. While there are some positive provisions in the package, further arbitrary cuts in funding to Medicare providers are harmful and unproductive.

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