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### **Statement on the American Taxpayer Relief Act**

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While fixing the physician payment formula is essential, it should not be done by jeopardizing hospitals' ability to care for seniors and their communities. That's why we are very disappointed at the approach taken in this measure.

Hospitals are working to provide high-quality, innovative and effective care to seniors in their communities. Additional payment reductions will make it harder for patients to access the care they need and depend on.

We will continue to work with Congress to find a permanent solution to the Medicare physician payment problem, while remaining vigilant against additional cuts that could be harmful to hospitals' ability to fulfill their mission of caring.

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