



041510 NEWS BLAST

SENATE FAILS TO PASS EXTENSION FOR MEDICARE PAYMENT CUT - UPDATE

Last night, the Senate failed to approve an amended version of [H.R. 4851](#), the Continuing Extension Act of 2010, legislation which would continue the payment freeze at its current level through June 1. As a result of the Senate's failure to pass identical legislation addressing the extension of the Medicare physician payment freeze, **Medicare contractors will begin processing claims today, Thursday, April 15 at the original 2010 fee schedule rate, which is a 21% reduction.**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) previously indicated that if legislation was not enacted by midnight April 14, Medicare contractors would begin processing the held April 1 claims. Once final legislation regarding the Medicare payment freeze is passed, we anticipate CMS issuing an official statement.

Source: MGMA Washington Connexion

- ★ MEDTRON/MEDDATA urges everyone to contact their Senators and urge them to permanently address this issue by repealing the sustainable growth rate formula. ★
- ★ **Please realize failure to act means you just accepted, with no argument, a 21% pay reduction!** ★

You can contact your senators via the websites below.

State of LA contact information is available via <http://www.legis.state.la.us/>.

State of Mississippi contact information is available via <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/>.

State of Tennessee contact information is available via <http://www.legislature.state.tn.us/>