

Preservation of Access to Care for Medicare Beneficiaries and Pension Relief Act of 2010
Summary of Provisions
June 18, 2010

Six Month Extension of Medicare Physician Payment Update - Medicare physician payment rates are scheduled to be reduced by more than 20 percent in June. This provision would reverse that reduction and provide a 2.2 percent update to physician payment rates through November 30, 2010. *This provision is estimated to cost approximately \$6.4 billion over 10 years.*

Pension Funding Relief – This provision provides temporary, targeted funding relief for single employer and multiemployer pension plans that suffered significant losses in asset value due to the steep market slide in 2008. Employers that elect the relief would be required to make additional contributions to the plan if they pay compensation to any employee in excess of \$1 million, pay extraordinary dividends, or engage in extraordinary stock buybacks during the first part of the relief period. Additional relief is available to certain plans sponsored by charitable organizations. *This proposal is estimated to raise approximately \$2.102 billion over ten years.*

Clarification of 3-day payment window - Under current law, all outpatient services provided within three days before an inpatient admission and related to the inpatient admission are included in the bundled payment for that admission. The bill closes a loophole that had allowed the unbundling of services and submission of adjustment claims seeking separate and additional Medicare payments. *This provision is expected to save \$4.2 billion over 10 years and reduce excess spending.*

Establish a CMS-IRS data match to identify fraudulent providers - Under current law, CMS and IRS are not authorized to exchange information for the purposes of fighting Medicare fraud and screening potential new providers. This provision helps identify potentially fraudulent providers sooner by authorizing CMS to collaborate with the IRS to determine whether providers applying to enroll or re-enroll in Medicare have failed to file Federal tax returns or have delinquent tax debts. The data match would target certain high-risk provider types in high-vulnerability areas. *This provision is estimated to save approximately \$400 million over 10 years.*