

Congress overrides Presidents Veto

July 15, 2008

With the help of your advocacy efforts, both the House and the Senate voted to override President Bush's veto of H.R. 6331, the bill that reversed physician payment cuts. Yesterday, July 15, 2008, as expected, President Bush vetoed the "Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 ." In the afternoon, Congress quickly voted to override the veto with the Senate voting in favor (70-26) and the House voting in favor (383-41).

The passage of the "Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008" stops the 10.6 percent Medicare physician payment cut that went into effect on July 1, 2008 and replaces it with an 18-month physician payment fix that continues the .5 percent update for the remainder of 2008 and provides a 1.1 percent update in 2009.

We thank you for your ongoing advocacy over the past few weeks. Our voices were definitely heard on Capitol Hill!

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