



**Legislative Bulletin.....May 23, 2007**

**Contents:**

**H.R. \_\_** — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an exception to the 60-day limit on Medicare reciprocal billing arrangements between two physicians during the period in which one of the physicians is ordered to active duty as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces

**Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today**

**Total Number of New Government Programs:** 0

**Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations:** \$0

**Effect on Revenue:** 0

**Total Change in Mandatory Spending:** \$0

**Total New State & Local Government Mandates:** 0

**Total New Private Sector Mandates:** 0

**Number of Bills Without Committee Reports:** 1

**Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority:** 0

**H.R. \_\_ - To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an exception to the 60-day limit on Medicare reciprocal billing arrangements between two physicians during the period in which one of the physicians is ordered to active duty as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces (*Thompson, D-CA*)**

**Order of Business:** H.R. \_\_ is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. Note: H.R. \_\_ is similar to H.R. 2429, which was introduced in the House yesterday.

**Summary:** H.R. \_\_\_ would amend current Medicare law to extend the length of time, under certain circumstances, in which a billing arrangement between two physicians is accepted under Medicare payment policies. Specifically, current law allows payments to be made to a physician for physicians' services furnished by a second physician to patients of the first physician if the services are not provided by the second physician over a continuous period of more than 60 days. However, H.R. 2429 would allow these payments to be for services lasting longer than the 60 day period if during all of the time period the first physician has been called or ordered to active duty as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces.

**Committee Action:** H.R. \_\_\_ is similar to H.R. 2429, which was introduced in the House on May 22, 2007, and referred to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce, which took no official action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO score is not available for this legislation as of press time.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?** No.

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