



*The Maryland State Medical Society*

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### **MEDCHI STATEMENT ON MEDICARE “DOC-FIX”**

WASHINGTON, D.C., February 17, 2012 – According to the American Medical Association, House and Senate conference committees have reached an agreement to avert a 27.4 percent cut scheduled on March 1, 2012. The agreement is another short term patch for ten months. In ten months the Medicare physician payment will automatically be reduced by approximately 30 percent if Congress fails to act.

In response to the agreement MedChi President, Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., called the agreement “another failed opportunity to permanently fix Medicare.” Dr. Ajrawat went on to explain “Temporary fixes are just band-aids for a much larger problem, and are unfair to seniors, veterans and physicians.”

In lieu of the 27.4 percent physician payment cut scheduled to take effect on March 1, a payment freeze will be effective through the end of the year. MedChi appreciates the efforts by members of Congress who publicly supported a framework for a permanent end to this persistent problem.

#### About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit [www.medchi.org](http://www.medchi.org).