

## **H.R. 5273, THE HELPING HOSPITALS IMPROVE PATIENT CARE ACT**

Sponsored by Health Subcommittee Chairman Pat Tiberi (R-OH) and Ranking Member Jim McDermott (D-WA), the *Helping Hospitals Improve Patient Care Act* (HIP-C) helps medical providers better treat the patients in their communities. The bipartisan bill is a part of the Committee's ongoing effort to promote greater access, increase choices, and improve the quality of health care.

There is widespread support for provisions in HIP-C that advance commonsense reforms such as:

- **Ensuring the implementation of new payment policies, such as site-neutral payments, do not unfairly affect hospitals** that were in the process of building off-campus outpatient centers;
- **Improving support for hospitals that provide care to cancer patients** by allowing them to continue operating under a separate payment system that better meets their needs;
- **Preventing hospitals serving low-income communities from being unfairly penalized in the Readmission Reduction Program** by including a provision that takes into consideration socio-economic status;
- **Increasing access to care in rural communities** by extending for five years the Rural Community Hospital Demonstration Program;
- **Protecting access to quality health care choices for seniors** by improving transparency and preventing the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services from abruptly and unilaterally terminating Medicare Advantage health care plans; and
- **Supporting physicians who treat patients in ambulatory surgical centers** by exempting them from the Electronic Health Records Incentive Program and the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System.

For a summary of the bill, [click here](#).

For a section-by-section summary of the bill, [click here](#).

For the full bill text, [click here](#).