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**To:** Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
**Date:** 4/13/2015 9:06:55 AM  
**Subject:** URGENT: Call your Senators to improve a Medicare bill for seniors

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Dear Anthony,

**Your Senators are key votes needed to improve a Medicare bill for seniors. Please call them TODAY or TOMORROW before the Senate votes.**

**Here's the issue:**

The U.S. House just passed a bill to permanently replace the flawed Medicare physician payment system. The Senate is expected to vote tomorrow. The problem is that the bill "solves" the problem by asking people on Medicare to shoulder more than their fair share of the cost.

We are hoping that Sen. Cardin (D-MD) will offer an amendment that would:

- Strengthen protections and outreach for low-income beneficiaries
- Eliminate arbitrary restrictions on access to needed physical, occupational, and speech therapies
- Extend expiring funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)

**The amendment needs 60 votes to pass, and your Senators are crucial for bipartisan support. Tell your Senators that you're counting on them to pass a bill that's fair for everyone!**

**Here's how to call TODAY or TOMORROW:**

1. Dial 1-844-449-9466 and follow the prompts to be connected to your Senator.
2. Once you're connected, tell the staff person that you're a constituent and you want your Senator to support Senator Cardin's amendment to the Medicare physician payment bill that improves the bill for seniors. Use the script below.
3. When you're done, call your second Senator at the same number

3. 1-844-449-9466 and deliver the same message.

**Here's what to say:**

Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I live in \_\_\_\_\_. I'm a constituent and I urge Senator \_\_\_\_\_ to support a seniors amendment by Senator Cardin to improve the Medicare physician payment bill. While I applaud the bipartisan effort to solve the physician payment issue, the bill forces seniors to shoulder more than their fair share of the cost. The Senate should improve the bill by agreeing to an amendment to strengthen access to benefits, especially for low-income, vulnerable older Americans. I hope the Senator will support Senator Cardin's seniors amendment. Thank you.

**Thank you for your support, and please share this alert with other advocates in your state!**

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