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America's Physician Groups Applauds Passage of Budget which includes Funding for Critical Healthcare Programs

[America's Physician Groups](#) today commends Congress for passing a bipartisan budget deal to fund the government, deliver much-needed support to essential healthcare programs and to continue to drive the movement toward responsible payment models. Signed by President Trump this morning, the Bipartisan Budget Agreement of 2018 contains many healthcare-related provisions that strengthen capitated, coordinated care.

"This budget agreement brings critical funding to important programs America's seniors rely on," said Don Crane, President and CEO of America's Physician Groups. "We were especially pleased that the CHRONIC Care Act provisions we have been fighting for finally made it across the finish line. Specifically, provisions in this new law will improve participation in high-value delivery models like Medicare Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) and Medicare Advantage, and give our physicians additional tools to better care for the patients and communities they serve.

Crane concluded, "We also note that the new law includes modifications to MACRA that would allow, but not require, CMS to take a slower approach to implementation. We look forward to working with the agency to ensure that MACRA continues to mature in a way that accelerates the movement to value." The agreement also includes a 0.25 percent cut to the Medicare physician fee schedule to help offset the cost of the overall package.

The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 funds the federal government for six weeks, provides an outline for domestic and defense spending over the next two years, and extends the debt-ceiling limit through March 2019.

About America's Physician Groups

America's Physician Groups is the nation's leading professional association for accountable physician groups, composed of approximately 300 medical groups and independent practice associations (IPAs) across 44 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. America's Physician Groups' members operate under a capitated, coordinated care model that is the essence of the nation's health reform movement from volume to value. Our [Annual Conference 2018](#) will be held April 19-21, 2018 in San Diego. Learn more at www.apg.org.

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