

Medical Society of the State of New York

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Letters-to-the-Editor
The New York Times
229 West 43 Street
New York, NY 10036-3959

Dear Editor:

Our Medicare Challenge

The Congress' decision to override President Bush's veto on Medicare payments to doctors was the right thing to do. Congress chose the interest that patients and doctors have in maintaining strong access to quality healthcare over the special interests of insurers.

But this 18-month reprieve in chopping physician payments is just the start. Now Congress faces the real challenge in putting in place the bedrock reforms needed to correct the archaic Medicare funding formula developed more than a decade ago. This is the critical issue in keeping Medicare solvent and available for older Americans in the years to come.

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