

AMA UPSET MPFS CUTS NOT TACKLED IN CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Rep. Larry Bucshon (R-IN) is hopeful Congress will act by early next year to mitigate payment cuts under the 2024 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS), according to his office, after the American Medical Association expressed disappointment the latest laddered continuing resolution didn't include such relief. If Congress doesn't make progress on that front before the end of 2023, the Energy & Commerce member and former heart surgeon would consider tackling the cuts in January or February when the latest round of government funding expires.

Relief from the MPFS cuts is one of a number of priorities stakeholders had hoped lawmakers would tackle before the end of the year. Legislation would increase the conversion factor, which would yield overall payment increases for physician and freestanding cancer center services in 2024.

Lobbyists also say that if a package doesn't move before year's end, the next chance could be when the so-called extenders that were addressed as part of the laddered continuing resolution expire January 19th.