

SDMS Members

CARE Bill Update CARE Bill Passes Senate HELP Committee March 13, 2008

- S. 1042, the “Consistency, Accuracy, Responsibility and Excellence in Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy” or CARE bill passed the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension (HELP) Committee; this was an important milestone in the SDMS’ effort to pass this major legislation.
 - The bill passed with one amendment that removed Section H, “Delivery of and Payment for Services” from the bill to accommodate the Senate Finance Committee who have jurisdiction over federal payment programs including Medicare and Medicaid. In recent weeks, the Senate Finance Committee has expressed interest in the bill’s provisions because of the potential cost savings from a reduction in repeated studies.
- During the past month, the SDMS has coordinated Capitol Hill visits by members of the Government Relations Committee, initiated a “Call to Action” to SDMS’ Oklahoma members and worked with key HELP Committee staff to address questions or concerns that arose during the process.

Congress is in recess now for two weeks giving SDMS the opportunity to work with the Senate Finance Committee members and their staffs to reinforce the link between significant Medicare/Medicaid cost savings and passage of the CARE bill. We thank you for your continuing support for this crucial piece of legislation.