

## neurosurgery

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## Neurosurgeons Commend House Committee for Passing IPAB Repeal Legislation

Unelected board has the power to cut billions of dollars from Medicare limiting seniors' access to care

Washington, DC—The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) applaud the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee for passing H.R. 849, the Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act. Sponsored by Rep. Phil Roe, MD (R-Tenn.), and Rep. Raul Ruiz, MD (D-Calif.), this bipartisan legislation would repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), which is charged with making steep cuts to the Medicare program; thus adversely affecting seniors' ability to see their trusted physicians and get the care they need when they need it.

Earlier this year, the AANS and CNS joined the <u>Physician IPAB Repeal Coalition</u>, the <u>Alliance of</u> <u>Specialty Medicine</u> and more than <u>800 health care stakeholder organizations</u> in endorsing this legislation.

"The AANS and CNS have long supported legislation to repeal the IPAB to ensure that our patients have timely access to quality health care," said Ann R. Stroink, MD, FAANS, a neurosurgeon from Bloomington, Ill. and chair of the AANS/CNS Washington Committee. "We congratulate the Ways and Means Committee for passing H.R. 849 and urge swift passage by the full House of Representatives."

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The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS), founded in 1931, and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), founded in 1951, are the two largest scientific and educational associations for neurosurgical professionals in the world. These groups represent over 8,000 neurosurgeons worldwide. Neurological surgery is the medical specialty concerned with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of disorders that affect the entire nervous system, including the spinal column, spinal cord, brain and peripheral nerves. For more information, please visit <u>www.aans.org</u> or <u>www.neurosurgeryblog.org</u>.