

2026 Washington Legislative Conference High Level Talk Points

OVERVIEW

AAHomecare urges Congress and the Administration to strengthen patient access, stabilize the DMEPOS marketplace, and modernize Medicare policy by advancing targeted legislative fixes, delaying harmful regulatory changes, protecting access to critical technologies, and supporting reforms that improve program integrity without burdening legitimate suppliers.

DMEPOS INDUSTRY POSITIONS

1. Oversight of Fraud & Abuse

AAHomecare supports stronger oversight of fraudulent billing across Medicare and Medicaid but urges policymakers to ensure these efforts do not restrict access for legitimate beneficiaries or penalize compliant DMEPOS suppliers. AAHomecare is working with the Administration and Congress on:

- AI/predictive modeling systems to stop fraudulent blast billing from criminal entities
- DME ePrescribing
- UPIC audit reform to refocus these audits on fraud
- Prior Authorization which does not place a burden on suppliers, providers, or patients

2. Support H.R. 2005/S. 1251

Please cosponsor and move forward H.R. 2005/S. 1251 to extend the 75/25 blended rate and provide essential reimbursement relief for suppliers in non-rural, non-competitive bidding areas.

- Similar DME relief was included in the 2020 CARES Act and 2022 Omnibus Appropriations bill.
- House Energy and Commerce Committee and Senate Finance Committee have marked up and approved this legislation.
- Last CBO score was \$218 Million and CMS has provided technical assistance on the language
- AAHomecare urges Congress to include this relief in the next health care package.
- Congress understands the “through 2025” date can be easily updated in future legislation, and this bill remains an appropriate and effective vehicle for securing needed relief.

3. Delay the DMEPOS Final Rule

Congress should urge CMS to delay implementation of the 2026 DMEPOS Competitive Bidding provisions to prevent disruption to beneficiary access and allow time to develop a workable, sustainable framework.

- CMS issued a final rule on November 28, 2025, which has numerous changes to the DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program that are new and untested.
- These changes could disrupt Medicare’s beneficiaries’ access to CGMs, insulin pumps, and ostomy and urological supplies, while also impairing DME suppliers’ ability to care for these vulnerable patients.
- AAHomecare is working with Congress on legislation that would delay the inclusion of these products in competitive bidding for 5 years, create a technical advisory panel, and demonstration project to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries are protected.

4. Support S. 247/H.R. 1703 – Choices for Increased Mobility Act

Please cosponsor S. 247/H.R. 1703 to allow upgrades within a code for titanium and carbon-fiber wheelchairs, improving access to lighter, more durable mobility equipment.

- This bill will allow Medicare beneficiaries to upgrade within a code to obtain an ultra-light wheelchair and only pay the cost difference from a standard wheelchair.
- House and Senate legislative language is identical.
- The House Energy and Commerce Committee marked and approved the bill in the last Congress.
- CBO score was zero cost and CMS provided technical assistance on the language.
- A provision to upgrades within a code was originally included in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.
 - The implementation worked well and Medicare beneficiaries were allowed to upgrade within a code.
- In 2016, CMS announced that it would no longer allow upgrades for complex rehab technology (CRT) wheelchairs without explanation.

5. Support the SOAR Act – S. 1406/H.R.2902

Please cosponsor the SOAR Act to modernize oxygen reimbursement, permanently remove oxygen from the Competitive Bidding Program, and ensure beneficiaries with complex respiratory needs receive appropriate care.

6. Support S. 4037 – Protect Access to CGMs & Insulin Pumps

Senators should support and cosponsor S. 4037 to delay the inclusion of CGMs and insulin pumps in the DMEPOS CPB for five years. This delay would allow CMS and Congress time to evaluate the impact of competitive bidding on these critical technologies and ensure Medicare beneficiaries maintain access to the devices they need to manage their diabetes effectively.