**AAHomecare Legislative Strategy for 119th Congress**

**Updated on 6/20/2025**

**Policy Positions**

* Seek introduction and support legislation to reinstate the 75/25 blended rate in non-rural, non-CBAs.
* Seek introduction and support legislation that would implement a 90/10 blended rate in former CBAs.
* Seek introduction and support legislation that would reinstate beneficiaries’ ability to upgrade to titanium/carbon fiber wheelchairs in Medicare.
* Seek Congressional support to increase access to CGMs in Medicare.
* Prevent the inclusion of additional DME items in CB.
* Work for the passage of legislation to extend telehealth waivers in Medicare.
* Seek Congressional support for DME e-prescribing and CDE for oxygen.
* Work on legislation to increase transparency and oversight of Medicare Advantage Plans.
* Work on Medicare Advantage prior authorization legislation.
* Work for the passage of legislation to end PBM rebates.
* Work to ensure new tariffs do not negatively impact the DME industry.
* Monitor federal "right to repair" legislation regarding wheelchairs.
* Work with Congress to reform the UPIC audits to target DME fraud.
* Working with CMS and Congress to make changes or stop the NCA regarding COPD.
* Working with Administration and Congress to exempt DME from new tariffs.

**75/25 blended rate legislation**

**Strategy** - seek bill introduction and include bill language in 2025 health care package or Budget Reconciliation bill.

**Committees of jurisdiction** - SFC, EC, and WMs.

**House sponsors** - Rep. Miller-Meeks (R-IA), Tonko (D-NY), Feenstra (R-IA), and Jimmy Panetta (D-CA) introduced the DMEPOS Relief Act of 2025 (H.R. 2005). This bill has strong bipartisan support (2 Rs and 2Ds from EC and WMs committees). The bill has 2 new cosponsors – Reps Meuser (R-PA) and Tenny(R-NY).

**Senate sponsors** – AAHomecare is working with Senator Thune (previous sponsor) to pass the DME relief this year. Senator Thune’s staff has indicated that the Leader will not introduce bills. Staff said that Thune will help with the new bill sponsor. Staff has reached out to Senator Lankford’s staff. Senator Thune’s staff said the Leader will still be our champion and will help with the Administration. Senator Lankford has agreed to sponsor the DME relief bill. AAHomecare is seeking a SFC Democratic to co-lead the bill. We are working with state associations and suppliers on this effort. We have been working closely with Senator Haasan (D-NH) and it appears she will be the D SFC co-lead.

**Cosponsors** – HR 2005 has 15 cosponsors.

**Committee action** – The House passed the budget reconciliation bill without DME relief. Only a few Medicare provisions were included in the package. The Senate is now working on the bill. R leadership has removed all Medicare provisions for the bill because of cost. This increases the chances that there will be a health care package later in the year. Our House and Senate champions and committees of jurisdiction continue to be supportive of the relief.

**CBO Score** - 2024 score is $210 million for 1 year of relief.

**CMS review** - provided technical assistance last year.

**90/10 blended rate legislation**

**Strategy** - seek bill introduction and cosponsors. Work with committee to have hearings and markup. AAHomecare met with Senator Markwayne Mullin’s staff and requested the Senator introduce the 90/10 Urban relief. We are coordinating efforts with the OK state association. **With the possibility of CB restarting, we may need to pivot our Hill strategy to CB changes if necessary.**

**Committee of jurisdiction** - SFC, EC, and WMs.

**House sponsors** - TBD

**Senate sponsors** - TBD

**Cosponsors** - bills have not been reintroduced.

**Committee action** - no committee action so far.

**CBO Score** - no official score yet.

**Titanium/Carbon Fiber Upgrade Bill**

**Strategy** - Seek introduction in the House/Senate and work to pass the bill. AAHomecare will also work with CMS to rescind the 2016 policy change.

**Committee of jurisdiction** - SFC, WMS, and EC

**Committee action** - bill was marked up in EC last Congress. AAH and bill sponsors worked with SFC, WM, and EC on language. Late last year all committees agreed to language. Senator Blackburn is working with SFC to hotline the bill. If the bill passes, AAH will work with House leadership and committees to consider the bill under the suspension of the rules. Senator Blackburn will hotline the bill after the budget reconciliation process has been completed. WMs and EC staff said the House will consider the bill after the Senate passes the bill

**House sponsor** – Reps. John Joyce and Vern Buchanan introduced legislation on 2/27/25 (H.R. 1703)

**Senate sponsors** - Senators Blackburn and Duckworth introduced the bill on 1/24/25 (S. 247). AAHomecare is working with Senator Blackburn’s staff on outreach to CMS to ask that the agency rescind the 2016 policy change.

**Cosponsors** – Rep. Schrier (D-WA) has cosponsored the bill. She is the Dem Doc Caucus chair and is on EC committee. This is a significant development.

**CBO Score** - CBO scored the bill at zero cost late last year.

**CMS review** - provided technical assistance last year.

**Coalition work** - Work with NCART, ITEM Coalition, United Spinal Association, other consumer groups to build Congressional support.