Repeal of the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB)

The National Association of Catholic Nurses-U.S.A. (NACN) is a signatory with over 500 healthcare, patient, employer, veteran groups to a letter to Congress calling for repeal of the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB). IPAB is responsible for making cuts to Medicare expenditures if program spending reaches a certain level established by statute. However, the IPAB is comprised of executive branch appointees. Their recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, if implemented, are not subject to judicial review. As the letter to Congress put it, “An unelected board without adequate oversight or accountability would be taking actions historically reserved for the public’s elected representatives in the U.S. House and Senate.” Clearly, this is not in the best interest of our Nation’s health, especially the health of vulnerable persons whose only health care coverage is through Medicare.

See: <http://www.hlc.org/2015/05/over-500-healthcare-patient-employer-veteran-groups-call-on-congress-to-repeal-independent-payment-advisory-board>

From: Dr. Marie Hilliard, PhD, MS, MA, JCL, RN, Northeast Regional Director