

Congress confronts Medicare cuts to doctors' fees

March 21 2014, by Andrew Taylor

Hope is fading for a Capitol Hill drive to permanently fix Medicare's outdated payment formula and spare doctors from automatic cuts in their fees next month. Now the question is whether lawmakers can regroup and come up with a short-term solution when the current patch expires.

There's widespread support for bipartisan legislation to repair, once and for all, the broken Medicare formula that threatens doctors with a 24 percent cut in their Medicare payments.

But there's no agreement on how to bear the 10-year, \$140 billion cost.

The GOP-controlled House passed a bill that combines the so-called doc fix with a delay in imposing penalties on individuals who fail to purchase health care under the [health care law](#). That measure is dead in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

© 2014 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: Congress confronts Medicare cuts to doctors' fees (2014, March 21) retrieved 8 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-03-congress-medicare-doctors-fees.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--