

*(Washington, DC) – Rep. Rush Holt (NJ-12) today voted to prevent a 21 percent cut in Medicare payments to doctors and instead increase physician payments by 2.2 percent. This also applies to TRICARE families, because payment rates for doctors in TRICARE are tied to Medicare rates. President Obama is expected to sign the fix into law.*

“When it comes to Medicare, our first rule should be to do no harm. The Central New Jersey physicians I’ve talked with rightly are concerned about payment cuts and the patients I’ve talked with rightly are concerned about a reduction in services. This action protects Medicare and the services on which our seniors rely.”

“Yet, I am frustrated by these short-term extensions. I particularly am disappointed by the delay in passing this current extension, which members of the minority in the Senate had filibustered for the past month. I will continue to fight to replace the broken payment formula with a system that fairly compensates physicians for treating Medicare patients.”

###