

WASHINGTON- Congressman Lee Terry issued the following statement today after voting against a bill that would modify Medicare physician payments to prevent a 21% cut to Medicare physician reimbursements that is scheduled to occur on Tuesday.

**"I am deeply frustrated over Congress' failure to come up with a permanent solution to the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR)," said Congressman Lee Terry. "This year alone, we've addressed short term 'doc fixes' three times---in January, March and April. □ Repeated short term 'fixes' have created an enormous amount of uncertainty for our health care providers and seniors who rely on Medicare. □ It was incredibly irresponsible for the Majority party to implement health care reform without addressing Medicare payments and instead propose cutting hundreds of billions from Medicare to pay for new bureaucracies.**

**While language in H.R. 4213 temporarily suspends cuts through 2011, it creates an even larger reimbursement gap, leaving physicians facing a 33% cut in January 2012. These accounting gimmicks are not fooling anybody. We owe our physicians a permanent fix that allows them to continue practicing medicine and provide care to our seniors."**



