

Senators Cassidy and Hassan Seek Fair Billing Policy Reforms

Healthcare Law Update

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Carol Grelecki
Member, Healthcare

Jonathan J. Walzman
Member, Healthcare

Paul DeMartino, Jr.
Counsel, Healthcare

BRACH | EICHLER^{LLC}
Counsellors at Law

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Senators Bill Cassidy (R-LA) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH) recently [unveiled](#) a comprehensive framework for establishing site-neutral payment policy reforms and reinvesting savings into rural and safety net health care providers. If enacted, these reforms would lower healthcare costs for patients by ensuring that hospitals charge the same prices for the same health care services regardless of where the service is delivered. Under the plan, Medicare reimbursements would be equalized for common outpatient services at hospital-owned offsite locations, ambulatory surgery centers and other clinics. According to Senators Cassidy and Hassan, the plan is being proposed at least partially in response to the prevalence of physician practices and other outpatient sites being acquired by hospitals and health systems, who are often accused of steering patients to the hospital or health system affiliated facilities with the highest Medicare reimbursement rates for the particular outpatient procedure.

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For more information, contact:

Carol Grelecki | 973.403.3140 | cgrelecki@bracheichler.com

Jonathan J. Walzman | 973.403.3120 | jwalzman@bracheichler.com

Paul DeMartino, Jr. | 973.364.5228 | pdemartino@bracheichler.com

Authors

The following attorneys contributed to this insight.



Carol Grelecki

Member
Healthcare Law

973.403.3140 · 973.618.5540 Fax
cgrelecki@bracheichler.com



Jonathan J. Walzman

Member
Healthcare Law, Corporate
Transactions & Financial Services

973.403.3120 · 973.618.5561 Fax
jwalzman@bracheichler.com



Paul J. DeMartino, Jr.

Counsel
Healthcare Law, Litigation

973.364.5228 · 973.860.4221 Fax
pdemartino@bracheichler.com