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**For Immediate Release**  
July 1, 2013

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## **AHCA Urges CMS to Delay Rebasing and Revision of Skilled Nursing Medicare Market Basket**

*Association supports agency's overall approach, but concerned about possible  
Congressional cuts*

**Washington, DC** – The American Health Care Association (AHCA) today submitted [comments](#) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in response to the agency's proposed rule for the Skilled Nursing Facility Prospective Payment System (SNF PPS) for FY2014.

CMS proposed a market basket update of 1.4 percent, estimating a \$500 million increase in skilled nursing care center Medicare payments. However, the agency recommended rebasing and revising the current market basket system using FY2010 Medicare cost reports. AHCA argues in its comments that CMS' methodology in using the FY 2010 cost reports may have skewed the major cost category weights and questions the validity and accuracy of the resulting weight estimates.

“We believe CMS' action of rebasing and revising the market basket to reflect the recent mix of goods and services that our members use to deliver high quality care is reasonable,” said AHCA President & CEO Mark Parkinson. “However, AHCA has a number of concerns with CMS' approach in utilizing the FY 2010 cost reports. We hope to work with CMS to address our data concerns and strongly recommend that the agency defer from rebasing and revising the market basket until it has a full year of more accurate cost reports.”

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### **ABOUT AHCA/NCAL**

The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) represent more than 12,000 non-profit and proprietary skilled nursing centers, assisted living communities, sub-acute centers and homes for individuals with intellectual and development disabilities. By delivering solutions for quality care, AHCA/NCAL aims to improve the lives of the millions of frail, elderly and individuals with disabilities who receive long term or post-acute care in our member facilities each day. For more information, please visit [www.ahca.org](http://www.ahca.org) or [www.ncal.org](http://www.ncal.org).