

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 19, 2011**

**AMA STATEMENT ON SGR REPEAL IN PRESIDENT'S DEFICIT PROPOSAL**

Statement attributable to: Peter W. Carmel, M.D.

President, American Medical Association

“The American Medical Association (AMA) commends the President for recognizing that any serious plan to address the deficit must include a repeal of the Medicare sustainable growth rate formula (SGR). Honest accounting of our nation's debt should not assume \$300 billion in Medicare physician cuts, which Congress has rejected repeatedly because of the significant, detrimental impact those cuts would have on patients’ access to care. Many bipartisan deficit reduction plans have called for repealing this flawed formula while achieving substantial deficit reduction totals.

“The AMA will work with Congress and the Administration to include full repeal of the SGR in deficit reduction legislation while maintaining health care quality, promoting cost savings and stabilizing the Medicare system for patients and physicians.”

###

**Contact:**

Heather Lasher Todd

AMA Media Relations

202-789-7430

[Heather.Lasher.Todd@ama-assn.org](mailto:Heather.Lasher.Todd@ama-assn.org)