

# PRIMA ACT (H.R. 813)

Puerto Rico Integrity in Medicare Advantage Act



The PRIMA Act would correct and stabilize Medicare Advantage (MA) payments to Puerto Rico. It would also help rebuild and enhance the island's health care system by investing in hospitals, doctors, and other critical providers.

## THE PROBLEM

Medicare has long underfunded health care in Puerto Rico. The situation worsened in 2010, when Congress linked MA funding to Medicare fee-for-service spending, and was further strained by the devastation of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. As a result, thousands of physicians have fled the Island, creating a crisis of access.

**Congress must pass PRIMA to help rebuild Puerto Rico's health care infrastructure and ensure Medicare beneficiaries have access to optimal care.**

## THE BILL WOULD

- **Make important adjustments to the MA payment formula.** A readjustment period of three years will help health care recovery efforts in the aftermath of Irma and Maria.
- **Incentivize doctors to stay in Puerto Rico, and encourage those who have left to return.** PRIMA prioritizes stabilizing and rebuilding Puerto Rico's physician workforce by earmarking additional dollars for health care providers.

## MEDICARE IN PUERTO RICO

**75% of Puerto Rico's Medicare enrollees elect benefits through MA plans, while only 30% of mainland enrollees do. And yet, MA in Puerto Rico:**

Has seen a **\$5B federal funding loss** since 2011

Is **43% below** the U.S. average in federal funding

Is **39% below** the lowest state's federal funding

Is **25% below** the USVI's federal funding