

Dear all:

Please allow this to be an update of MAG activities over the last few weeks. As always, my previous updates can be found at <http://www.mag.org/resources/executive-directors-message>.

### **South Georgia Storms**

If you know of physicians impacted by the storms earlier this week, please have them go to <http://www.mag.org/news/articles/MAG-Foundation-reminding-physicians-about-Distressed-Physicians-Fund>. The MAG Foundation has a “Distressed Physicians Fund” to address these type of natural disasters and its impact on physicians.

### **DOJ Blocks Aetna-Humana Merger**

MAG’s number 1 priority was actively opposing the health insurance merger between Aetna-Humana. Georgia was one a few states that failed to approve the mergers. The federal court found that the Aetna-Humana merger would significantly lessen competition in the Medicare Advantage and commercial market and blocked the merger. More information can be found at <http://www.mag.org/news/articles/MAG-president-says-ruling-to-block-Aetna-Humana-merger-great-news>.

### **Physicians Day at the Capitol**

MAG had another successful Physicians Day at the Capitol. Many thanks to all the specialty societies that participated in the event. For more information, please go to <http://www.mag.org/news/articles/Physicians-Day-at-Capitol-deemed-great-opportunity-and-big-success>.

### **MAG and Physicians for Fair Coverage Rally**

MAG, specialty societies and Physicians for Fair Coverage held a rally at the Georgia Capitol on Tuesday. The focus of this rally was to educate the General Assembly on the real reason patients receive “surprise bills” – a “surprise insurance coverage gap.” The rally was well attended. Dr. Walsh and I spoke at the event. For more information, please go to <http://www.mag.org/news/articles/MAG-leaders-to-call-for-action-to-end-need-for-balance-billing>. Also, please see the following website for more information and a short video on the issue - <http://endtheinsurancegap.org/>. To see a picture of Dr. Walsh speaking, please go to <https://twitter.com/NoSurpriseGap>.

**To view the video on this campaign MAG is a partner, please go to**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9euAeOm4b3g>

### **Georgia Senate District 32**

Longtime Georgia Senator Judson Hill will be running for a congressional seat. As such, there will be a special election for his soon to be vacated seat. The date has not been set as of yet. In addition to Kay Kirkpatrick, MD running for the open seat, Royden Daniels, MD will also be running for the same seat. Dr. Daniels announcement is attached to this email. [[See attachment](#)]

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

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