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Medicare Compensation Regulations Paused Pending Litigation

Washington, D.C. – A Texas court has recently ruled that the implementation of Medicare regulations capping compensation by \$100 would cause irreparable harm to Medicare agents while litigation is pending. This regulatory relief applies to all Medicare agents, brokers, and carriers, addressing substantial concerns regarding the rule's adherence to statutory guidelines and its potential negative impact on the Medicare community.

NABIP submitted a <u>comment letter</u> highlighting that the rule could negatively impact Medicare beneficiaries by disrupting existing contractual relationships between carriers, Field Marketing Organizations (FMOs), and Medicare Advantage and Part D plan sponsors. The letter also noted that the rule's approach to categorizing administrative payments as compensation lacked empirical support and posed risks to the stability and effectiveness of Medicare services.

Jessica Brooks-Woods, CEO of NABIP, stated, "We are optimistic that this judicial pause will lead to a resolution that respects both the legal rights of Medicare agents and the healthcare needs of Medicare beneficiaries. As open enrollment approaches, NABIP will continue to engage in dialogue with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), members of Congress, and other stakeholders to ensure clarity and safeguard the interests of Medicare beneficiaries and the dedicated professionals who serve them."

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<u>NABIP</u> is the preeminent organization for health insurance and employee benefits professionals, working diligently to ensure all Americans have access to high-quality, affordable healthcare and related benefits. NABIP represents and provides professional development opportunities for more than 100,000 licensed health insurance agents, brokers, general agents, consultants, and benefit professionals through more than 200 chapters across America.