

Leg Committee FAL Update FEB 18th, 2026

Comment Letter Guidance: Large regulatory proposals, such as the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, prompt APTA to send advocacy alerts with template letters. For those new to writing comment letters, APTA offers a [video tutorial](#) and a [detailed walkthrough](#).

Quarterly Regulatory Webinars: In addition to monthly meetings, the APTA regulatory team hosts quarterly webinars reviewing compliance updates, advocacy work, and common member questions. These longer sessions focus heavily on payment issues and offer continuing education credits. The first 2026 webinar is expected in early April, with details to be shared once available.

Midterm Election Year: Many members of Congress are seeking campaign support, and PTPAC aims to assist strategically. FALs are encouraged to monitor campaign websites, campaign social media accounts, and email lists for local fundraising events. PTPAC may provide funding for FALs or Key Contacts to attend events and help build relationships.

Congressional Update

Medicare Reform and MPPR Advocacy: APTA recently submitted formal comments to the Congressional Doctors Caucus identifying top priorities for Medicare reform, including fixing MIPS, implementing annual updates, and repealing MPPR. Because only Congress can fully change the MPPR statute, APTA and partner organizations are working to introduce legislation addressing it directly.

Five policy solutions APTA is championing to reform the fee schedule to help provide stability to therapy providers and the patients they serve:

1. Provide an annual inflation-based payment update
2. Raise the budget neutrality threshold
3. Require routine updates to practice expense inputs
4. Repeal the Multiple Procedure Payment Reduction
5. Reform the Quality Payment Program

<https://www.apta.org/advocacy/position-papers/position-paper--medicare-payment-reform>

Department of Education Proposed Rule: On January 29, 2026, the U.S. Department of Education released a proposed rule that includes a new definition that, if enacted, would reclassify dozens of professional degree programs (including physical therapy) impacting borrowing limits. APTA is pursuing dual advocacy strategies: formal comments to the Department and [outreach supporting two bills addressing the issue](#). The proposed rule may negatively affect the physical therapy workforce pipeline.