



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## The American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM) to Hold Annual Legislative Day

Fairfax, VA – The American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM) [www.aaham.org](http://www.aaham.org), a professional association, will hold its annual Legislative Day, April 21-22, 2010 at the Liaison on Capitol Hill.

Invited speakers include:

Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI), Ways and Means Committee; Lauren Aronson, Policy Director, White House Office of Healthcare Reform; Rep. Rob Andrews (D-NJ), Education and Labor Committee; Ben Smith, Politico

“Legislative Day provides a valuable opportunity to meet face to face with our Senators and key leaders to communicate our perspective on healthcare challenges and to request specific action.” said AAHAM President, Laurie Shoaf, CPAM.

“It also provides an excellent forum to hear about the critical healthcare issues that are being addressed in Washington today from prominent speakers. With the recently signed healthcare reform bill; this is a very significant time for our members to be in Washington” added Shoaf.

AAHAM is pleased that their issues were included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, signed into law on March 23, 2010. AAHAM’s concern is the length of time that will occur before the regulations become effective coupled with the length of time these issues have already been delayed which has cost our health system billions of wasted dollars. Based on research conducted by the Healthcare Efficiency Index, these items could reduce healthcare costs by as much as \$30 billion a year.

AAHAM is requesting that their members work with HHS and CMS to reduce the timeframe for promulgating rules for adopting the following provisions included in HR 3590. Specifically:

- Unique Health Plan Identifier have an effective date of December 31, 2011, not October 1, 2012.
- Eligibility for a health plan and health claim status have an effective date of December 31, 2011, not *January 1, 2013*.
- Electronic funds transfer and health care payment and remittance advice have an effective date of December 31, 2011, not July 1, 2012.

- Health claims or equivalent encounter information, enrollment and disenrollment in a health plan, health plan premium payments, referral certification and authorization have an effective date of January 1, 2012 not July 1, 2014.

“At this critical time it is important for everyone to be heard on their issues and I am very pleased to see AAHAM respond. AAHAM is planning an aggressive push for solid reforms we believe will make a real difference and save the tax-payers money.” said Paul A. Miller, AAHAM’s Congressional Liaison of Miller/Wenhold Capitol Strategies, LLC.

For more information regarding AAHAM and its programs, please visit [www.aaham.org](http://www.aaham.org) or contact AAHAM, 703-281-4043.

## ABOUT AAHAM

The American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM) is a national professional association of thirty-six chapters and over 2600 healthcare patient financial services professionals from hospitals, clinics, billing offices, allied vendors, physicians and multi physician groups. AAHAM members direct the activities of the thousands of people who are employed in the healthcare industry.

AAHAM is the preeminent professional organization for revenue cycle professionals and is known for its prestigious certification and educational programs; professional development of its members is one of the primary goals of the association. AAHAM is also recognized for its quarterly journal, *The Journal of Healthcare Administrative Management* and its Annual National Institute, held each fall. AAHAM actively represents the interests of its members through a comprehensive program of legislative and regulatory monitoring and participation in industry groups such as WEDI, ASC X12, NUBC and NUCC.

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