

## **AOS, INC.-Alabama Orthopaedic Society**

### **CONGRESS REACHES LAST MINUTE DEAL ON SGR FIX, OBAMA SIGNS INTO LAW**

**December 27, 2011**

In a dramatic turn of events, House Republicans agreed last week to pass a two month extension of the SGR, payroll tax cut, and unemployment benefits. The deal, forged by Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid, and House Speaker Boehner, came in response to increasing public pressure placed on House Republicans for delaying a bill so integral to the middle class and the nation's seniors and disabled individuals. The House GOP made one change to the Senate-passed extension (removing a payroll tax wage cap which they contended would create difficulties for payroll processors over the next two months) before passing it by unanimous consent. The bill was subsequently approved unanimously by the Senate and signed by President Obama shortly thereafter.

Boehner and Reid have agreed to appoint representatives to negotiate a longer extension bill when Congress returns from recess in January, 2012. Both AAOS and AOS remain persistent in their advocacy efforts to achieve a permanent fix to the SGR.

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