

### **DMEPOS Accreditation Exemption Introduced in Senate**

Sens. John Tester (D-Mont.) and Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) are the chief sponsors of a bill that would add pharmacists to a list of 17 medical professions that already are exempt from new accreditation requirements for Medicare Part B DMEPOS (durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies ) providers.

S. 511, the Access to Durable Medical Equipment Act of 2009, was [introduced last week](#). It is similar to H.R. 616, introduced in the House by Reps. Marion Berry (D-Ark.) and Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) Jan. 21. That measure currently has 45 bipartisan supporters.

"The accreditation fees and implementation costs are at least \$5,000 to \$7,000 per pharmacy, reoccur every three years, and are totally unneeded and unwarranted for pharmacists and pharmacies already licensed and regulated by their state and DEA (the Drug Enforcement Administration)," commented Bruce T. Roberts, RPh, NCPA executive vice president and CEO.

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