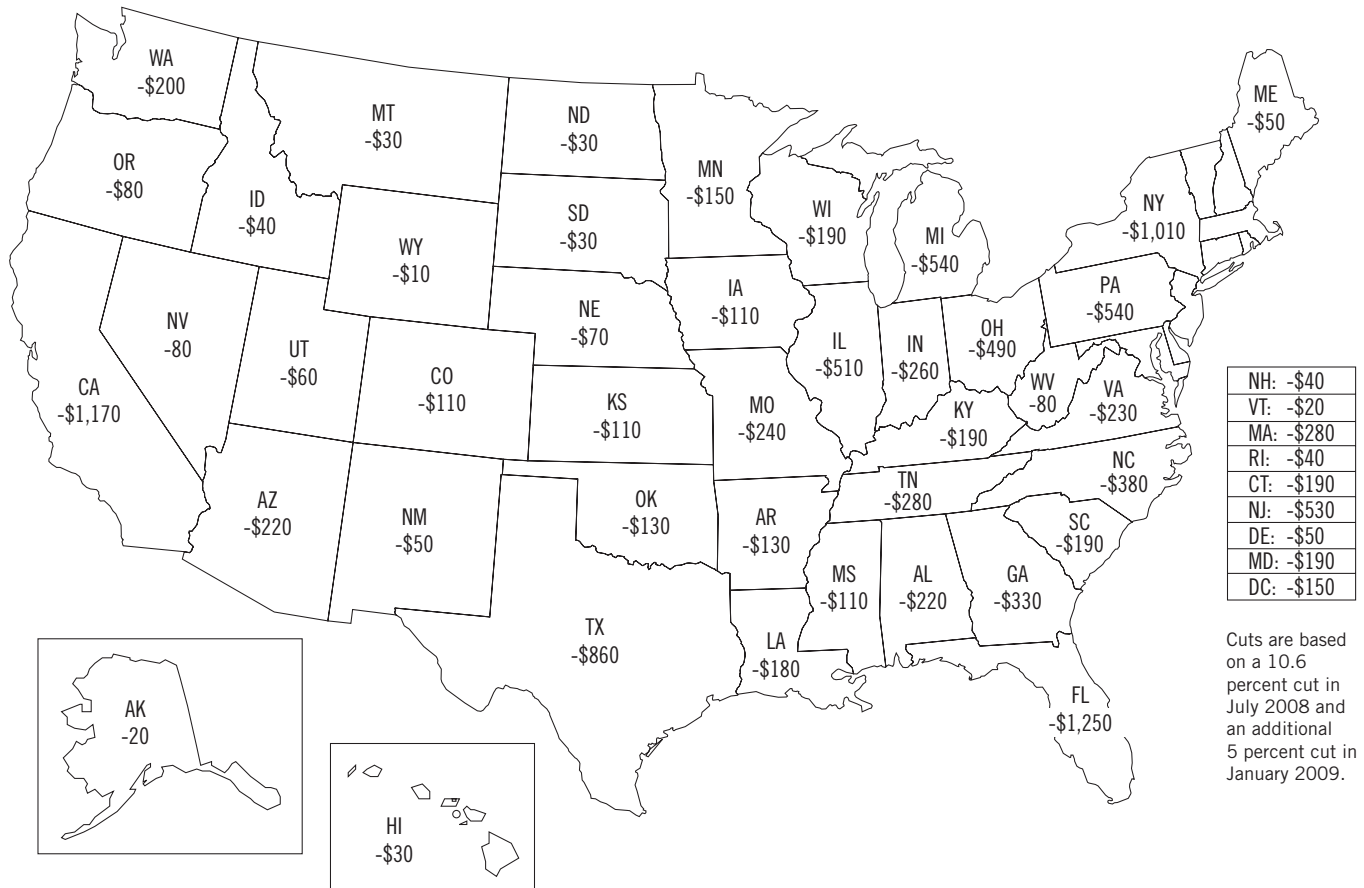


Medicare payment cuts for physician services by state, July 2008-December 2009 (in millions)



Source: The projected negative Medicare physician payment updates are from the 2007 Medicare Trustees report with 2008 adjustments to reflect Sec. 101 of P.L. 110-173. The source of the state-by-state analysis is the American Medical Association, Division of Economic and Health Policy Research, January 2008.

Congress needs to: 1) replace looming Medicare physician payment cuts with 18 months of positive updates that reflect practice cost increases to ensure seniors' access to care; and 2) pave the way for permanent replacement of this formula.