
HOSPICE NEWS SPOTLIGHT

March 27, 2025

Special Supplemental Update for Hospice News Network
A Service of State Hospice Organizations

CMS SAYS HOSPICE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOCUS WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED IN 2025

With CMS pledging it would not resume implementation of the hospice Special Focus Program (SFP), a federal court ordered a stay on litigation. The group of state organizations and one hospice provider organization that filed the litigation include the Texas Association for Home Care and Hospice, Indiana Association for Home and Hospice Care, Association for Home and Hospice Care of North Carolina, South Carolina Home Care and Hospice Association, and Houston Hospice

Rachel Harmon, executive director of the Texas Association for Home Care & Hospice, called the action an important step in the work with CMS to create an SFP “that truly serves patients and fulfills Congress’ intent to identify and improve poor performing hospices.” (*Hospice News*, 3/25, <https://hospicenews.com/2025/03/25/cms-will-not-resume-implementation-of-hospice-sfp-in-2025/>)

NEW YORK ASSEMBLY PASSES BILL TO PROHIBIT NEW FOR - PROFIT HOSPICES IN THE STATE

The New York State Assembly, on 3/26, passed Assembly Bill A565 to prohibit the establishment of new for-profit hospices within the state. The bill now moves to the Senate Health Committee. The text of the bill and the action on the bill are online at the link below.

(NYSenate.gov, 3/26,

[https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/A565#:~:text=2025%2DA565%20\(ACTIVE\)%20%2D%20Summary,of%20existing%20for%2Dprofit%20hospices](https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/A565#:~:text=2025%2DA565%20(ACTIVE)%20%2D%20Summary,of%20existing%20for%2Dprofit%20hospices))

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