

## Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

### Norwalk Out, Weems In At CMS

**President Bush** has nominated **Department of Health and Human Services** official **Kerry Weems** to be permanent administrator of the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)**. Currently **Leslie Norwalk** is acting administrator, but she declined to be considered for the permanent position, according to press reports.

Weems has held a variety of top management positions within HHS, including deputy chief of staff, according to a CMS release. If the nomination is approved, he will succeed **Mark McClellan**, who resigned from the position last fall.

Some observers were surprised to see the nomination go to a government agency veteran with largely financial and budget experience, rather than an outside political personality like former CMS Administrator **Tom Scully** and former HHS Secretary **Tommy Thompson**.

**Next up:** The Senate must now review the president's nomination.