

The Honorable Devin Nunes
1013 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
237 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Nunes and Representative Pallone:

The undersigned organizations are writing to express our support for the TELEhealth for MEDicare (TELE-MED) Act of 2013. We applaud your introduction of the bill and your continued commitment to advancing telehealth. We believe this is a solid step in expanding access to care while lowering costs for consumers through telehealth.

The convergence of medical advances, health information technology, and a nationwide broadband network are transforming the delivery of care to citizens by bringing the health care provider and patient together virtually, especially those in disadvantaged areas. More than 60 million Americans lack access to primary care services due to doctor and provider shortages at local practices, community health centers, and hospitals. In many rural communities, patients must travel long distances to health care providers to receive treatment. Telemedicine can mitigate these problems and holds tremendous promise to improve outcomes and to lower health care costs.

Congress has already expanded telehealth opportunities at the Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration for service members regardless of geographic location. The Veterans Administration has recognized that treating veterans at home is less expensive than treating them in a facility.

This proven model can and should be applied to the Medicare program to improve access and lower costs. Your legislation does just that, and we strongly support your efforts to remove obsolete policy barriers that prevent Medicare patients from receiving technology enabled, modern health care. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to pass the TELEhealth for MEDicare (TELE-MED) Act of 2013.

Sincerely,

1. 60 Plus Association
2. Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education
3. Advocates for Responsible Care
4. American Association of Diabetes Educators
5. American Association of People with Disabilities
6. American Commitment
7. American Consumer Institute
8. American Health Information Management Association
9. American Society of Employers

10. Americans for Tax Reform
11. American Well
12. Association of Washington Business
13. Bread for the City
14. Black Women's Roundtable Policy Network
15. Care Continuum Alliance
16. Center for Individual Freedom
17. Colorado State Grange
18. Connecticut State Grange
19. Council for Citizens Against Government Waste
20. CTIA-The Wireless Association ®
21. eSNF
22. Greater North Dakota Chamber
23. Health IT Now Coalition
24. Hispanic Leadership Fund
25. Idaho State Grange
26. Illinois State Grange
27. Intel
28. Kansas State Grange
29. Latinos in Information Sciences and Technology Association
30. Less Government
31. LGBT Tech Partnership
32. Michigan Manufacturers Association
33. Mississippi Manufacturers Association
34. Missouri Association of Manufacturers
35. Montana State Grange
36. National Association of Manufacturers
37. National Association of Neighborhoods
38. National Black Chamber of Commerce
39. National Caucus and Center on Black Aging
40. National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
41. National Grange
42. National Hispanic Medical Association
43. National Retail Federation
44. Nebraska State Grange
45. Newborn Coalition
46. New Hampshire State Grange
47. Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers & Employers Association
48. NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association
49. The Ohio Manufacturers' Association
50. Ohio State Grange
51. Parkinson's Action Network
52. Pharmacy HIT Collaborative
53. Plumbing Manufacturers International
54. SCAN Health Plan
55. Steel Manufacturers Association

56. Taxpayers Protection Alliance
57. TelePharm
58. The Corporate Health Care Coalition
59. The Georgia AIDs Coalition
60. United States Black Chambers Inc.
61. United States Chamber of Commerce
62. Washington State Grange
63. WellPoint
64. West Virginia Manufacturers Association
65. Woodworking Machinery Industry Association (WMIA)
66. Verizon