



ALLIANCE *for*  
CONNECTED CARE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Diverse Group of Patients, Providers, Industry Applaud Consensus Approach to Telemedicine in Medicare**

February 3, 2016 – Today, a diverse group of patient, provider and industry groups applauded the introduction of the CONNECT for Health Act, a bipartisan piece of legislation introduced by Senators Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Roger Wicker (R-MS) that lifts Medicare’s outdated restrictions on the use of telehealth and provides a benefit for remote patient monitoring. Organizations as diverse as AARP, the American Medical Association, America’s Health Insurance Plans and the American Heart Association came to support the CONNECT for Health Act as it represents the first time in more than a decade that consensus has been reached on how to modernize Medicare’s approach to remote patient care.

“This is a clear recognition across the political spectrum and among diverse stakeholders that Medicare has an outdated approach to critical technology that improves patients’ access to care and reduces costs,” said Krista Drobac, Executive Director of the Alliance for Connected Care. “The momentum to fix this problem was demonstrated today.”

The legislation lifts outdated geographic restrictions, provides resources for remote patient monitoring technology for patients with chronic conditions, ensures new payment models will include these connected care tools, makes these technologies part of Medicare Advantage, and addresses specific challenges related to stroke and dialysis.

The CONNECT for Health Act has received bipartisan support from prominent members in Congress. Senators Thad Cochran (R-MS), Ben Cardin (D-MD), John Thune (R-SD), and Mark Warner (D-VA) have agreed to sign-on as co-signers, and Representatives Diane Black (R-TN) and Peter Welch (D-VT) will release companion legislation in the House of Representatives.

About Alliance for Connected Care

*The Alliance for Connected Care is a 501(c)(6) organization working to create a statutory and regulatory environment in which every provider in America is permitted to deliver and be adequately compensated for providing safe, high quality care using Connected Care at his or her discretion, regardless of care delivery location or technological modality.*



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*Current Alliance members include **Anthem, CVS Health, Teladoc, Intel, MDLIVE, Avizia, Care Innovations and CareSpan.***

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