

February 3, 2016

The Honorable Brian Schatz  
United States Senate  
722 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
United States Senate  
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Diane Black  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1131 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter Welch  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2303 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senators Schatz and Wicker, and Representatives Black and Welch:

On behalf of the Medicare beneficiaries, providers and plans we represent, we are writing to support the CONNECT for Health Act. Your bipartisan leadership will help bring telehealth and remote patient monitoring, valuable tools for managing care, to seniors in Medicare.

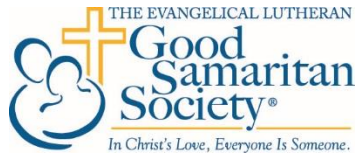
The CONNECT for Health Act is a measured approach that lifts Medicare's outdated restrictions on the use of telehealth, provides resources for remote patient monitoring technology for patients with chronic conditions, ensures new payment models will include these tools, makes these technologies part of Medicare Advantage, and addresses specific challenges related to stroke and dialysis. We are confident this legislation will win consensus among stakeholders representing patients, providers and industry.

Telehealth and remote monitoring are important for achieving the goals of value-based care, providing more access to primary care and behavioral health, improving chronic care management and advancing patient engagement. Patients with commercial coverage have access to these tools through their employers, health plans or health system. The evidence from their usage proves that telehealth and remote monitoring can move our health care system toward better care at lower costs.

The time is now for Congress to modernize care and access for all Medicare beneficiaries, and to that end, we thank you and your colleagues for introducing the CONNECT for Health Act. We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,







*"A Public/Private Partnership for a Healthier America"*



CC:

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate

The Honorable John Thune  
Chairman  
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
United States Senate

The Honorable Ben Cardin  
Member  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate

The Honorable Mark Warner  
Member  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate