



ALLIANCE *for*
CONNECTED CARE

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 Alliance for Connected Care (“the Alliance”), 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. Our members greatly appreciate your stewardship of important policy solutions that will help to modernize care and improve access for Medicare beneficiaries.

The Alliance was formed to create a statutory and regulatory environment in which providers can deliver, and be adequately compensated for, providing safe, high-quality care using connected care at their discretion, regardless of care delivery location or technological modality. Our members are leading health care companies from across the spectrum, representing insurers, retail pharmacies, technology companies, and health care entrepreneurs. The Alliance works in partnership with an Advisory Board of more than 20 patient and provider groups, including groups representing patients with chronic diseases such as cardiac disease, Parkinson’s disease, Multiple Sclerosis, behavioral health disorders, Alzheimer’s disease and spinal cord injuries.

The CONNECT for Health Act is a measured approach that lifts Medicare’s outdated restrictions on the use of telehealth, provides resources for remote patient monitoring technology for patients with chronic conditions, ensures new payment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. The Alliance is committed



ALLIANCE *for*
CONNECTED CARE

to advancing connected care technologies, and we believe the CONNECT for Health Act is the best solution for improving the use of these high quality services for Medicare beneficiaries. We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista Drobac". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Krista Drobac
Executive Director
Alliance for Connected Care

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