



TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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July 31, 2014

The Honorable Mike Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
231 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gregg Harper
U.S. House of Representatives
307 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressmen Thompson and Harper:

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), the leading trade association for global manufacturers, vendors, and suppliers of information and communications technology (ICT), is writing to thank you for introducing, and voice our support for, your introduction of, the Medicare Telehealth Parity Act of 2014. TIA's members greatly appreciate your leadership in promoting a modern and more effective Medicare system through greater use of telemedicine. This important bill makes improvements to Medicare by gradually expanding coverage of telehealth services, including the use of store-and-forward technologies and remote patient monitoring for specific chronic conditions, beyond rural areas and improving access to quality care for all Medicare beneficiaries.

Your bill recognizes that a modern, 21st century health care system must leverage advances in communications technology that are changing the way healthcare is being delivered and consumed. Americans will greatly benefit from technologies that connect patients, health care providers, and medical professionals virtually anywhere, facilitating ongoing care and treatment wherever and whenever it is needed. This bill makes significant strides in ensuring that telemedicine and all the associated benefits become more widely available.

Thank you again for your efforts. TIA appreciates your strong bipartisan commitment and leadership on this legislation, and we look forward to working with you to enact these important reforms. For more information, please contact Danielle Coffey at (703)-907-7734 or by email at dcoffey@tiaonline.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Grant E. Seiffert', is written in a cursive style.

Grant E. Seiffert
President