



October 22, 2013

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

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

The Honorable Devin Nunes
U.S. House of Representatives
1013 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Congressmen Harper, Thompson and Nunes and Welch:

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 the Telehealth Enhancement Act of 2013. TIA's members appreciate your leadership on issues such as strengthening Medicare and enhancing Medicaid through telehealth, allowing flexibility for Accountable Care Organizations to include coverage of telehealth and remote patient monitoring services, and improving telecommunications for medical delivery, including the removal of criteria limiting provider location in rules that enhance healthcare provider access to advanced telecommunications and information services.

The increased use of telehealth services and telemedicine will give patients the benefits that 21st century care allows. Such care can connect patients, health care providers, and medical professionals virtually anywhere, facilitating ongoing care and treatment wherever and whenever it needs to happen. By enabling greater use of telehealth services and remote patient monitoring, this important bill would help modernize the Medicare and Medicaid programs to improve access to quality health care, particularly for communities that lack adequate resources. Americans will greatly benefit from a modern healthcare system that leverages innovative communications technologies that are changing the way healthcare is delivered and consumed.

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,

Grant E. Seiffert
President