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November 4, 2013

The Honorable Frank Pallone
U.S. House of Representatives
237 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3006

Dear Representative Pallone,

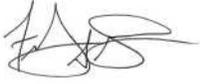
On behalf of the Care Continuum Alliance (CCA) and the millions of Medicare beneficiaries our members serve, I would like to thank you for your leadership on H.R. 3077, the TELE-MED Act of 2013. Your critical legislation will help pave the way for the continuum of care in strengthening the healthcare provider - patient relationship through the utilization of telemedicine.

The Care Continuum Alliance (CCA) represents a broad range of stakeholders dedicated to enhancing the health of populations through the full continuum of care. Our diverse membership of more than 200 organizations and individuals includes physician groups, nurses, other health care professionals, hospital systems, wellness and prevention providers, population health management organizations, pharmaceutical manufacturers, pharmacies and pharmacy benefit managers, health information technology innovators, employers, researchers and academics. The TELE-MED Act champions a goal shared by the CCA – a dedication to the improvement in health outcomes while reducing preventable costs.

As an organization whose members serve Medicare beneficiaries across the country, CCA recognizes that in order to provide pro-active and effective patient-centered care, we must keep pace with rapidly developing communications technologies offered in telemedicine. As you know, telephonic, video and web-based approaches to healthcare and health-wellbeing have introduced new pathways to cost effective quality care delivery. However, our outdated system of licensure creates roadblocks for patients that wish to continue their relationships with medical providers when the patient no longer resides in the state where the provider is licensed. By enacting the TELE-MED Act, we can reduce these needless provider-patient barriers that hinder the accessibility of affordable care for those most in need.

Again, we greatly appreciate your commitment to America's seniors and the disabled through the TELE-MED Act. If the CCA can be a resource for you, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fred Goldstein', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Fred Goldstein
Interim Executive Director