

Addressing a Senator:

The Honorable (Full Name)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Addressing a Representative:

The Honorable (Full Name)
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative / Senator _____:

As a practicing nurse practitioner, I am writing to request that you cosponsor H.R. 4993 / S. 2814, the *Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act of 2010*, as introduced by Representative Allyson Schwartz in the House of Representatives and Senator Susan Collins in the Senate.

Medicare policy is compromising my ability to provide adequate care for my patients because, under Medicare, I am not authorized to order home health services even though I can provide all other aspects of care for that patient leading up to and after the home health services order has been placed. This requirement necessitates inclusion of another provider who may indeed not be aware of the patient or their condition. In many cases, this means that my patient must come in for a second office visit, at considerable cost to both the patient and to Medicare.

[Insert personal story here: (i.e. I live in a rural area and don't have access to a physician to sign off on my order. / I have my own practice and don't have a relationship with a physician. / I have a patient who was not able to get the services she needed because of this law.)]

Please cosponsor this important legislation. You will be supporting my ability to provide comprehensive care to my patients and help them to access the Medicare services they need.

Thank you,