



Caring that Feels Right at Home

Via Electronic Mail

November 2, 2009

The Honorable Kendrick Meek
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Meek,

On behalf of the American Association for Homecare and the state and regional home medical equipment (HME) associations listed below, we are writing to express our strong support of H.R. 3790, the bill that would eliminate the ill-conceived competitive bidding program for durable medical equipment and prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS).

This program is harmful to Medicare beneficiaries who receive homecare and the homecare providers who serve them. Elimination of competitive bidding will allow homecare providers to continue to offer the same level of high-quality service and equipment to Medicare beneficiaries. Moreover, homecare providers will be able to continue to serve as a major part of the solution to keeping health care costs down by allowing people to stay in their homes.

We support the revenue offsets currently outlined in H.R. 3790. Associations throughout the country are working together to pursue additional co-sponsors for this legislation.

We appreciate your keen interest and strong support for the home medical equipment sector and the Medicare beneficiaries across America whom we serve. We look forward to continuing to work to garner support throughout the country to enact H.R. 3790.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rose Schafhauser".

Rose Schafhauser
Chair, American Association for Homecare State Leaders Council

State and Regional Associations Supporting H.R. 3790:

Alabama Durable Medical Equipment Association
Arizona Medical Equipment Suppliers Association
Association of Indiana Home Medical Equipment Services
California Association of Medical Product Suppliers
Colorado Association for Medical Equipment Services
Florida Alliance of Home Care Services
Florida Association for Medical Equipment Suppliers
Georgia Association of Medical Equipment Suppliers
Illinois Association for Medical Equipment Services
Jersey Association of Medical Equipment Services
Kentucky Medical Equipment Suppliers Association
Maryland National Capital Home Care Association
Medical Equipment Suppliers Association (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas)
Michigan Home Health Association
Midwest Association for Medical Equipment Services (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota)
Mississippi Association of Medical Equipment Suppliers
Nevada Association of Medical Products Suppliers
New England Medical Equipment Dealers (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)
New York Medical Equipment Providers Association
North Carolina Association for Medical Equipment Services
Ohio Association of Medical Equipment Services
Pacific Association of Medical Equipment Services (Oregon, Washington)
Pennsylvania Association of Medical Suppliers
South Carolina Medical Equipment Services Association
Tennessee Association for Home Care
Texas Alliance of Home Care Services
Virginia Association of Durable Medical Equipment
West Virginia Medical Equipment Suppliers Association
Wisconsin Association of Medical Equipment Services