

November 20, 2014

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

Dear Representative Thompson:

On behalf of the 30 undersigned organizations, we write in support of the Medicare Telehealth Parity Act of 2014 (H.R. 5380). We commend this legislation as it introduces a phased-in expansion of telehealth coverage under Medicare. Furthermore, H.R. 5380 promotes maximum utilization of health providers as it allows eligible practitioners to provide care across state lines.

As you know, Telehealth offers patients the opportunity to be treated by a provider through the support of electronic information and telecommunications technologies. It is an innovative solution that can help ensure access to care for patients across the country, and this is critical given the growing national demand for health providers and services. However, current statute limits the type of services and eligible settings for patients to receive care through Telehealth. H.R. 5380 would expand the number of services as well and broaden the inclusion of sites where Telehealth services would be covered under Medicare.

Again, we applaud this legislation and its implications for patients and participating clinicians. If our organizations can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please contact the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's Director of Government Affairs, Elliot Vice, at [evince@ncsbn.org](mailto:evince@ncsbn.org).

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses  
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing  
American Academy of Nursing  
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses  
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses  
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing  
Association of Community Health Educators  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Public Health Nurses  
Dermatology Nurses' Association  
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association  
Infusion Nurses Society

International Association of Forensic Nurses  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses  
National Association of Neonatal Nurses  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of School Nurses  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing  
National Nursing Centers Consortium  
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties  
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing