

Headquarters

4501 College Blvd, #225
Leawood, KS 66211
816-756-3140
Fax: 816-756-3144

**Government Affairs Office**

1025 Vermont Avenue
Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-639-0550
Fax: 202-639-0559

June 24, 2015

Representative Lynn Jenkins
1526 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Dave Loebsack
1527 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Jenkins and Loebsack,

The National Rural Health Association (NRHA), a non-profit membership organization with more than 21,000 members in rural America, strongly applauds the introduction H.R. 2878 to place a moratorium on CMS' enforcement of direct physician supervision requirements for outpatient therapy services at Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) and other rural hospitals for 2015. Your legislation will provide temporary relief that will go far in relieving the regulatory burden of direct supervision of outpatient therapeutic services for rural hospitals.

Your legislation is vital to give rural hospitals relief by requiring the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to delay enforcement of its rule strictly requiring direct supervision of outpatient therapeutic services. The enforcement of this rule will cause rural facilities to reduce therapy services, threatening access to needed procedures for rural Americans. Your legislation fittingly protects hospitals that were providing quality, responsible care during the period in question.

The NRHA supports your continued efforts and thanks you for sponsoring this important legislation. You are truly stalwart champions for rural America. Please feel free to contact Diane Calmus on my Government Affairs staff at (202) 639-0550 or dcalmus@nrharural.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Morgan', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Alan Morgan, CEO
National Rural Health Association