

December 19, 2024

The Honorable Charles J. Schumer
Hart Senate Office Building, 322
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Cannon House Office Building, 418
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Russell Senate Office Building, 317
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Rayburn House Office Building, 2267
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

On December 31, 2024, the Medicare telehealth flexibilities that millions of patients rely on will expire. Patients need certainty that they will be able to access care, and providers need certainty that they will be able to provide it. Congress must pass an extension of current flexibilities for as long as possible as they continue to work towards a permanent solution. We cannot allow patients, including seniors, to suddenly lose access to critical virtual care.

Medicare telehealth flexibilities are a lifeline for millions of patients. [Recent data](#) from the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) found that nearly 6 million seniors in traditional Medicare used telehealth last year. Telehealth increases access to care, helps lower costs, improves health outcomes and quality of life, and increases patient choice and care options, especially for many underserved populations.

Since telehealth flexibilities were initially granted over four years ago, there has been growing and widespread bipartisan support for virtual care protections, from lawmakers, patients, providers, and leaders across the health care spectrum. [Nearly three-in-four](#) virtual care users want Congress to make current telehealth flexibilities permanent. And earlier this month, a group of 100 bipartisan, bicameral legislators [sent a letter](#) in support of an extension of telehealth flexibilities.

The patients, consumers and communities we represent need certainty. It is in the best interest of patients and providers nationwide that Congress extend telehealth flexibilities for as long as possible as they work toward ensuring telehealth becomes a permanent piece of the health care puzzle – or risk millions of patients losing access to the care they rely on.

Sincerely,

