

(Month) (Day) (Year)

The Honorable (First name) (Last name)
(Room Number), State Capitol (City),
(State), (Zip Code)

RE: The 'Access to Inpatient Rehabilitation Therapy Act' by Reps. Joe Courtney (CT-02) and Glenn "GT" Thompson (PA-15)

Dear (Assembly Member/Senator) (Last name):

Recently Reps. Joe Courtney (CT-02) and Glenn "GT" Thompson (PA-15) have introduced a new bipartisan bill that would support Americans by preserving expanded access to skilled rehabilitation therapies for Medicare patients, even after the existing Public Health Emergency (PHE) is lifted. The *Access to Inpatient Rehabilitation Therapy Act* would ensure that all inpatient rehabilitation hospital patients can continue to benefit from a patient-centered, interdisciplinary care plan even after the end of the PHE. This important bipartisan legislation will help to ensure that patients at inpatient rehabilitation hospitals or units (IRF) will have the rehabilitative services to meet their needs by returning authority to the physician and rehabilitation team to determine the right mix of therapy modalities, including recreational therapy for a patient.

The approaching problem that this would help address is that when the current PHE waiver comes to an end, Medicare will begin again imposing restrictions on the types of therapies that count towards their "intensity of therapy" requirement, potentially limiting the types of therapies a patient could receive. Under current Medicare rules, a patient must benefit from at least three hours of skilled rehabilitation therapy per day in order to qualify for Medicare coverage of their stay in an inpatient rehab facility. This new legislation would expand the types of therapy that count toward this requirement—such as recreational therapy and respiratory therapy—ensuring that patients can access care that their physicians believe will aid them on the road to recovery.

As a Recreational Therapist getting this bill passed will not only do wonders for our profession, but it will help create new jobs and businesses serving people with disabling conditions, thus giving them access to the appropriate care that a doctor prescribes. Please vote YES on moving this bill forward.

Sincerely,

SIGN YOUR NAME

Print your name
Street address
City, State, Zip code