



National Home Infusion Association

Providing solutions for the infusion therapy community

August 29, 2017

The Honorable John Delaney
U.S. House of Representatives
1632 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jaime Herrera Beutler
U.S. House of Representatives
1107 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Delaney and Ms. Herrera Beutler:

The National Home Infusion Association (NHIA), based in Alexandria, Virginia, represents and advances the interests of providers and suppliers of infusion and specialized pharmacy products and services to home-based patients. We are writing you to thank you for introducing H.R. 2587, the *Medical Nutrition Equity Act of 2017*. This legislation will ensure individuals that are dependent on life saving medical nutrition therapy have access and coverage for the therapies that they rely on every day.

Specialized foods are medically necessary for the safe and effective management of digestive and inherited metabolic disorders that impact digestion, absorption, and metabolism of nutrients. Without these specialized foods, infants, children, and adults can suffer adverse health consequences, including hospitalization, intellectual impairment, behavioral dysfunction, inadequate growth, nutrient deficiencies, and even death. In many cases home infusion providers fulfill the need for nutrition therapy.

Although these foods are essential for patients, they are often expensive and not uniformly reimbursed by health insurance. The *Medical Nutrition Equity Act* would provide uniform public and private insurance coverage for medically necessary foods (including vitamins) for digestive and inherited metabolic disorders.

NHIA supports H.R. 2587 and urges the bill's passage. NHIA thanks you and your staff for your efforts to introduce this legislation. Please feel free to contact NHIA's Vice President of Government Affairs Kendall Van Pool, at Kendall.vanpool@nhia.org or (703) 838-2664, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tyler J. Wilson
President and CEO
The National Home Infusion Association



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August 29, 2017

The Honorable Bob Casey
U.S. Senate
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
U.S. Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey and Senator Grassley:

The National Home Infusion Association (NHIA), based in Alexandria, Virginia, represents and advances the interests of providers and suppliers of infusion and specialized pharmacy products and services to home-based patients. We are writing you to thank you for introducing S. 1194, the *Medical Nutrition Equity Act of 2017*. This legislation will ensure individuals that are dependent on life saving medical nutrition therapy have access and coverage for the therapies that they rely on every day.

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Although these foods are essential for patients, they are often expensive and not uniformly reimbursed by health insurance. The *Medical Nutrition Equity Act* would provide uniform public and private insurance coverage for medically necessary foods (including vitamins) for digestive and inherited metabolic disorders.

NHIA supports S. 1194 and urges the bill's passage. NHIA thanks you and your staff for your efforts to introduce this legislation. Please feel free to contact NHIA's Vice President of Government Affairs Kendall Van Pool, at Kendall.vanpool@nhia.org or (703) 838-2664, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tyler J. Wilson
President and CEO
The National Home Infusion Association