



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0529**

February 28, 2017

Dr. Patrick Conway  
Acting Administrator  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 445-G  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Acting Administrator Conway:

We write to express our strong support for the Medicare Advantage (MA) program and the high-quality care it provides to nearly 18 million seniors and individuals with disabilities. With over 90 percent of beneficiaries reporting high satisfaction, and the Medicare Trustees predicting future participation growth, we ask that the agency continue to implement policies that preserve and strengthen this valuable program as it finalizes the proposals recently released in the 2018 60-Day Notice and Draft Call Letter.

The Medicare Advantage program is improving quality and efficiency throughout the health care system and reducing the cost of the Medicare program for taxpayers by delivering higher value care and producing better outcomes for beneficiaries. Medicare Advantage practices and approaches to care management do not just benefit Medicare Advantage enrollees – they “spill over” into the traditional Medicare program as well. Research suggests that as a result of these innovative and effective plan techniques, growth in Medicare Advantage enrollment actually slows the growth of costs in traditional Medicare, particularly in areas of the country where MA is popular.

Now, more than ever, it is important to preserve the program’s coverage integrity and existing incentives for Medicare Advantage plans to offer efficient, person-centered managed care to seniors. For example, the Final 2018 Rate Notice and Call Letter should provide sound funding that keeps pace with expected medical costs.

The Medicare Advantage program continues to be of value to both taxpayers and seniors. The program also gives plans the flexibility to offer additional care coordination and disease management programs, as well as assistance in accessing community-based resources not always available in traditional Medicare. For this reason, we urge you to maintain existing protections for beneficiaries, provide a stable and predictable level of funding for the program, and to the greatest extent possible limit regulatory requirements that may result in increased administrative burden or reduced access to beneficiaries. Please know we will continue to closely monitor the changes this administration makes to the MA program.

Brett Guthrie

Erik Paulsen

Sincerely,

Tony Cárdenas

Earl Blumenauer

  
John Moolenaar

  
Francis Rooney

  
Alan Lowenthal

  
Eric Swalwell


  
John Yarmuth

  
Ann McLane Kuster

  
Josh Gottheimer

  
Mimi Walters

  
Scott Tipton

  
Alma S. Adams

  
Bradley Byrne

  
Glenn 'GT' Thompson

  
Tom O'Halleran

  
Bruce Westerman

  
Joyce Beatty

  
Paul Mitchell

  
Michelle Lujan Grisham

  
Mia Love

  
Elizabeth H. Esty

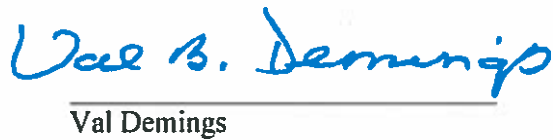
  
Tom Rice

  
Robert Pittenger

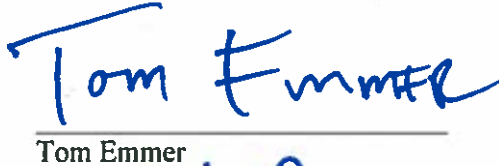
  
Dan Kildee

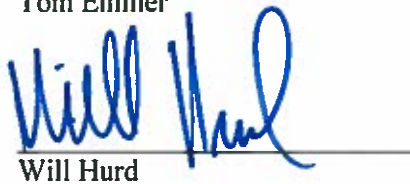
  
Barbara Comstock

  
Robert B. Aderholt

  
Val Demings

  
David Young

  
Tom Emmer

  
Will Hurd

  
Adrian Smith

  
Chris Stewart

  
David Scott

  
Jimmy Panetta

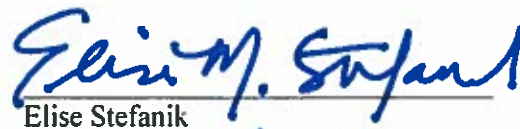
  
John Rutherford

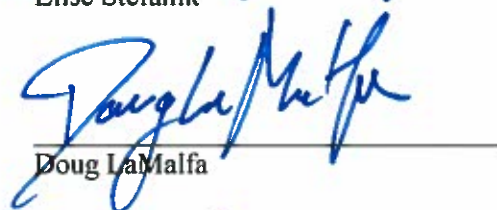
  
Ted W. Lieu

  
Mike Doyle

  
Ruben J. Kihuen

  
Brian Babin

  
Elise Stefanik

  
Doug LaMalfa

  
Judy Hice





John Ratcliffe



Jim Renacci



Peter King



Jack Bergman



Ralph Abraham, M.D.



Jackie Walorski



Neal Dunn, M.D.



Denny Heck



Charlie Crist



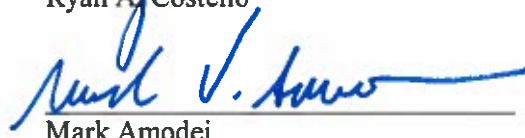
Richard Hudson




Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter



Ryan A. Costello



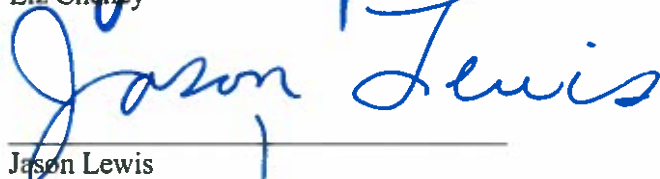
Mark Amodei



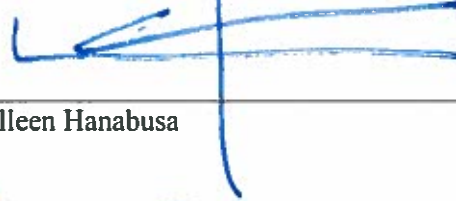
John Lewis



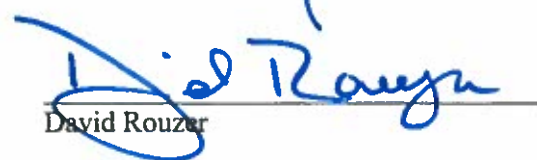
Liz Cheney



Jason Lewis



Colleen Hanabusa



David Rouzer



Rick W. Allen



Mike Bishop



Garret Graves



Ann Wagner



Dennis A. Ross



Suzanne Bonamici



Mario Diaz-Balart



Martha Roby



Tim MacArthur



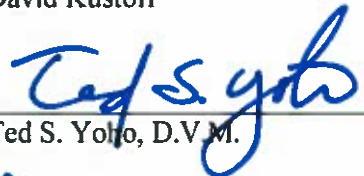
Matt Gaetz



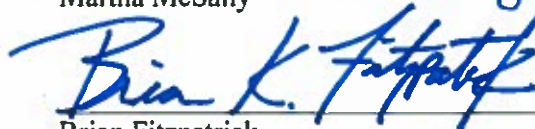
David Kustoff



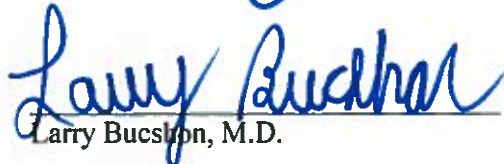
Martha McSally



Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M.



Brian Fitzpatrick



Larry Bucshon, M.D.



Mike Gallagher



Cheri Bustos




Devin Nunes



Julia Brownley



Steve Stivers



Stephen Knight



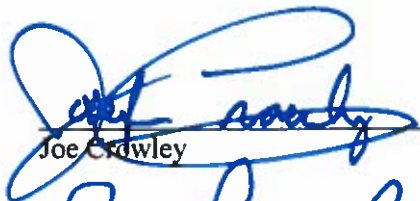
Sean Patrick Maloney




Susan W. Brooks



A. Drew Ferguson, IV D.M.D.

  
Joe Crowley

  
Lois Frankel

  
J. Luis Correa

  
Jaime Herrera Beutler

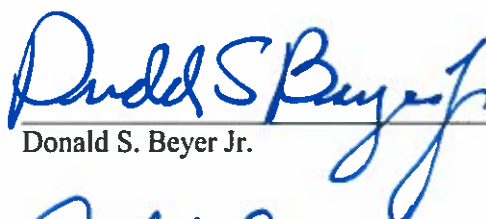
  
Rod Blum

  
George Holding

  
Markwayne Mullin

  
Chris Collins

  
Jason Smith


  
Donald S. Beyer Jr.

  
Scott Peters

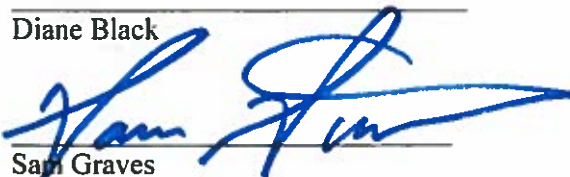
  
David Joyce

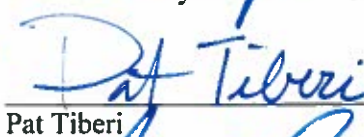
  
Tim Ryan

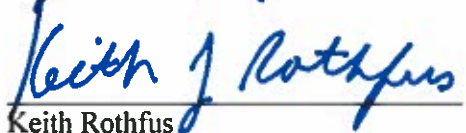
  
Dave Reichert

  
Diane Black

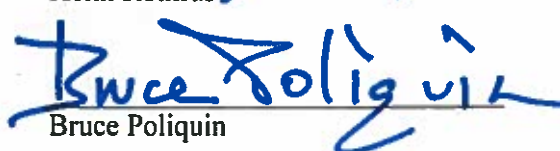
  
Brendan F. Boyle

  
Sam Graves

  
Pat Tiberi

  
Keith Rothfus

  
Scott Perry

  
Bruce Poliquin

  
Susan Davis



  
Glenn Grothman

  
Pete Aguilar

  
French Hill

  
Luke Messer

  
Stephanie Murphy

  
Mark Walker

  
Cathy McMorris Rodgers

  
Grace Meng

  
Raul Ruiz, M.D.

  
Beto O'Rourke

  
Carlos Curbelo

  
Zoe Lofgren

  
Seth Moulton

  
Ed Perlmutter

  
Mark Pocan

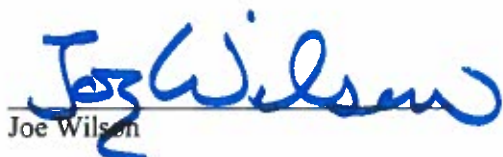
  
Darin LaHood

  
Andy Bera

  
Darren Soto


  
Ami Bera, M.D.

  
Bradley S. Schneider

  
Joe Wilson

  
Mike Bost

  
John B. Larson

  
Doug Collins

  
James Comer

  
Derek Kilmer

  
Lynn Jenkins

  
Donald Norcross

  
Juan Vargas

  
Grace F. Napolitano


  
John Katko

  
Trey Hollingsworth

  
Ron Kind

Ron Kind

  
Kathleen M. Rice

  
Lee Zeldin

  
Ron DeSantis

  
Dave Loebsack

  
Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.

  
Evan Jenkins

  
John J. Faso

  
John K. Delaney

  
Mike Kelly



  
Bill Johnson

  
Clay Higgins

  
Norma J. Torres

  
Kevin Cramer

  
Dave Trott

  
Rob Woodall

  
Kyrsten Sinema

  
David G. Valadao

  
Jeff Denham

  
Rodney Davis


  
Michael T. McCaul

  
Robert A. Brady


  
Lou Barletta

  
Robert J. Wittman

  
Bill Shuster

  
Jim Costa

  
Lucille Roybal-Allard

  
Mike Simpson

  
Vern Buchanan

  
Joe Barton



Gus M. Bilirakis



Ted Poe



Pete Olson



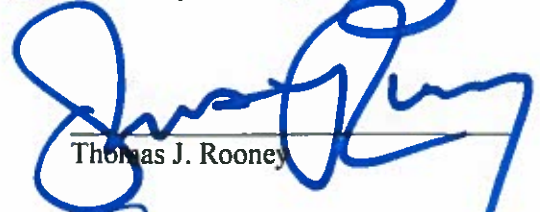
Peter A. DeFazio



Bill Posey



Danny K. Davis



Thomas J. Rooney



Chellie Pingree



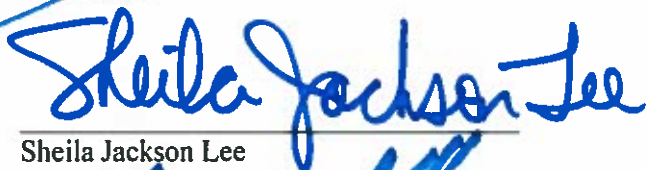
Brad Sherman



Brian Mast



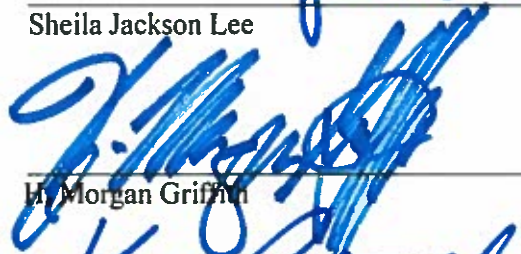
Marcy Kaptur



Sheila Jackson Lee



Terri Sewell



H. Morgan Griffith



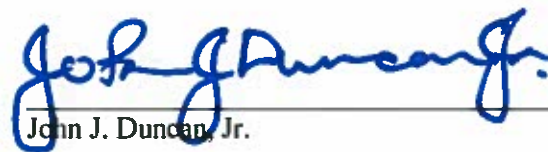
Collin C. Peterson



Ken Calvert



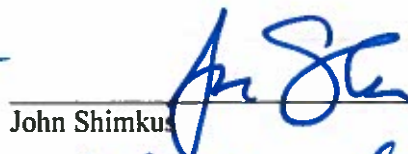
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen



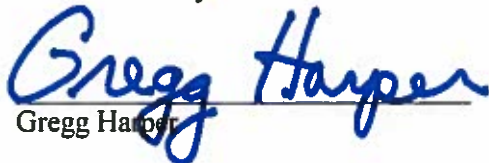
John J. Duncan, Jr.



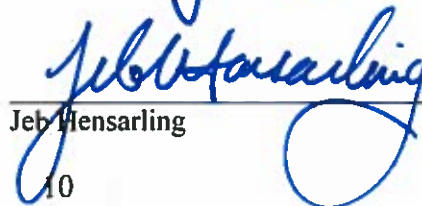
Mac Thornberry




John Shimkus



Gregg Harper



Jeb Hensarling

  
Jeff Duncan

  
Blaine Luetkemeyer

  
Bill Huizenga

  
Pete Sessions

  
Gerald E. Connolly

  
David B. McKinley, P.E.

  
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.

  
Karen Bass

  
Tom Marino

  
Adam Kinzinger

  
Peter J. Roskam

  
Betty McCollum

  
Keith Ellison

  
Marsha Blackburn

  
Scott DesJarlais

  
Nydia M. Velázquez

  
Sam Johnson

  
Patrick Meehan

  
Rodney Frelinghuysen

  
Ed Royce

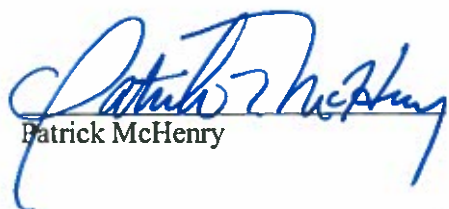


  
Tim Walz

  
Linda T. Sanchez

  
Blake Farenthold

  
Tim Murphy

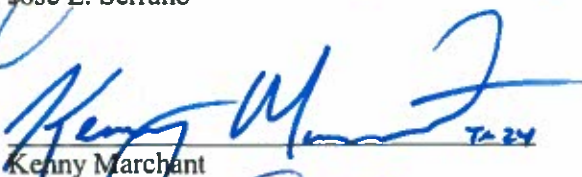
  
Patrick McHenry

  
Steven Palazzo

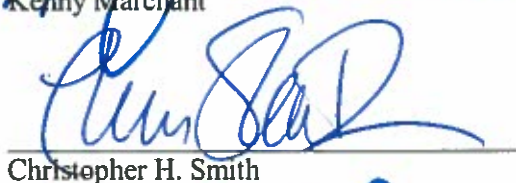
  
Leonard Lance

  
José E. Serrano

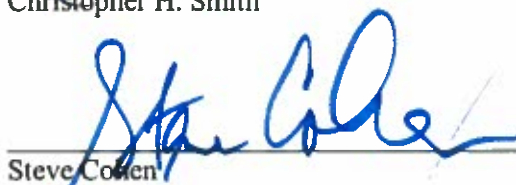
  
Michael R. Turner

  
Kenny Marchant

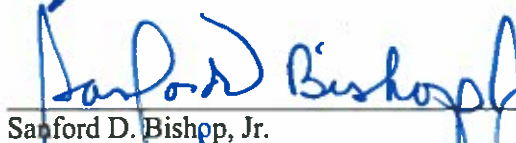
  
Steve Chabot


  
Christopher H. Smith

  
Doug Lamborn

  
Steve Cohen

  
Harold Rogers

  
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

  
Chuck Fleischmann


  
Steve Womack


  
Brad R. Wenstrup

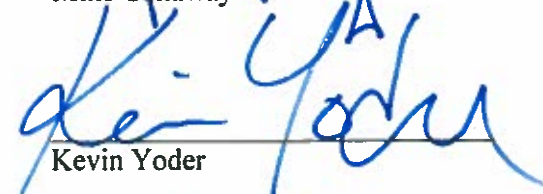
  
Rick Crawford


  
Frank A. LoBiondo

  
Duncan Hunter

  
Mike Conaway

  
Kurt Schrader

  
Kevin Yoder

  
Adam Smith

  
Trent Franks

  
Tim Walberg

  
Tom Reed

  
Todd Rokita

  
Bill Flores

  
Suzan DelBene

  
Mike Coffman

  
Frederica S. Wilson

  
Bob Gibbs

  
Ted Deutch

  
Robert Latta

  
Billy Long

  
Randy Hultgren

  
Kristi Noem



Brian Higgins



Paul D. Tonko



Dina Titus



Tom Cole



Ken Buck



Steven M. Palazzo



Cedric L. Richmond



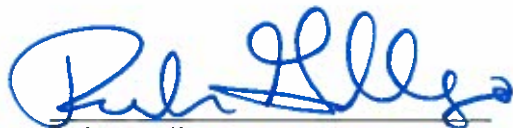
Trey Gowdy



Doris Matsui



Mike D. Rogers



Ruben Gallego