



August 15, 2022

The Honorable Ron Kind
U.S. House of Representatives
1502 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Kind:

On behalf of the over 5,200 Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) across the country, the National Association of Rural Health Clinics (NARHC) thanks you for your leadership introducing the *Primary Health Services Enhancement Act* (H.R.5365).

RHCs are part of an essential safety net of care in rural communities across the country, and for more than 40 years have been increasing care to outpatient services in medically underserved areas. However, the statute limits the types of providers in an RHC that can be directly reimbursed by Medicare for encounters. Unfortunately, the statutory list of providers does not include Physical Therapists, making it oftentimes financially infeasible for RHCs to offer these services, despite their strong benefit to patients. Therefore, we strongly support your bill which would allow licensed physical therapists to provide care at RHCs and be reimbursed directly by Medicare and Medicaid for the provision of physical therapy services.

The National Association of Rural Health Clinics would like to express our sincere appreciation for your work in introducing the *Primary Health Services Enhancement Act* and we look forward to working with you to pass this legislation as we believe that increasing the services available to patients in RHCs will improve health outcomes and reduce overall barriers to care.

Sincerely,

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