



- Provide the switchboard operator with your ZIP Code. The operator will connect you with the D.C. office of your Congressperson or Senator
- Once connected, ask to speak with the Health Legislative Assistant (Health LA).
- Stress your concerns over the impact of competitive bidding, oxygen cuts, and/or purchase options for PMD. **(See below for talking points on oxygen and power mobile devices)**
- Politely demand that the Congressperson or Senator respond to your specific concerns

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
21 Committee Members – 11 Democrats/10 Republicans

WAYS & MEANS
41 Committee Members – 24 Democrats/17 Republicans

Alabama

Artur Davis, (D-AL) – Ways & Means

Connecticut

John B. Larson, (D-CT) – Ways & Means

Alaska

Delaware

Arizona

Jon Kyl, (R-AZ) – Senate Finance Committee

Florida

Kendrick B. Meeks, (D-FL) – Ways & Means

Arkansas

Blanche L. Lincoln, (D-AR) – Senate Finance Committee

Georgia

John Lewis, (D-GA) – Ways & Means
John Linder, (R-GA) – Ways & Means

California

Fortney Pete Stark, (D-CA) – Chairman, Health Sub Committee, Ways & Means
Xavier Becerra, (D-CA) – Ways & Means
Mike Thompson, (D-CA) – Ways & Means
Wally Herger, (R-CA) – Ways & Means
Devin Nunes, (R-CA) – Ways & Means

Hawaii

Idaho

Mike Crapo, (R-ID) – Senate Finance Committee

Colorado

Ken Salazar, (D-CO) – Senate Finance Committee

Illinois

Rahm Emanuel, (D-IL) – Ways & Means
Jerry Weller, (R-IL) – Ways & Means

Indiana

Iowa

*Chuck Grassley, (R-IA) – Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee

Kansas

Pat Roberts, (R-KS) – Senate Finance Committee

Kentucky

Jim Bunning, (R-KY) – Senate Finance Committee

Ron Lewis, (R-KY) – Ways & Means

Louisiana

Jim McCreery, (R-LA) – Ways & Means

Maine

Olympia J. Snowe, (R-ME) – Senate Finance Committee

Maryland

Chris Van Hollen, (D-MD) – Ways & Means

Massachusetts

John F. Kerry, (D-MA) – Senate Finance Committee

Richard E. Neal, (D-MA) – Ways & Means

Michigan

Debbie Stabenow, (D-MI) – Senate Finance Committee

Sander M. Levin, (D-MI) – Ways & Means

Dave Camp, (R-MI) – Ways & Means

Minnesota

Jim Ramstad, (R-MN) – Ways & Means

Mississippi

Trent Lott, (R-MS) – Senate Finance Committee

Missouri

Kenny C. Hulshof, (R-MO) – Ways & Means

Montana

*Max Baucus (D-MT) – Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

Nebraska

Nevada

John Ensign, (R-NV) – Senate Finance Committee

Shelley Berkley, (D-NV) – Ways & Means

Jon Porter, (R-NV) – Ways & Means

New Hampshire

New Jersey

Bill Pascrell Jr., (D-NJ) Ways & Means

New Mexico

Jeff Bingaman, (D-NM) – Senate Finance Committee

New York

Charles E. Schumer, (D-NY) – Senate Finance Committee

*Charles B. Rangel, (D-NY) – Chairman, Ways & Means

Michael R. McNulty (D-NY) – Ways & Means

Joseph Crowley, (D-NY) – Ways & Means

Thomas M. Reynolds, (R-NY) – Ways & Means

North Carolina

North Dakota

Kent Conrad (D-ND) – Senate Finance Committee

Earl Pomeroy, (D-ND) – Ways & Means

Ohio

Stephanie Tubbs Jones, (D-OH) – Ways & Means

Pat Tiberi, (R-OH) – Ways & Means

Oklahoma

Oregon

Ron Wyden, (D-OR) – Senate Finance Committee

Gordon Smith, (R-OR) – Senate Finance Committee

Earl Blumenauer, (D-OR) – Ways & Means

Pennsylvania

Allyson Y. Schwartz, (D-PA) – Ways & Means

Phil English, (R-PA) – Ways & Means

Rhode Island

South Carolina

South Dakota

Tennessee

John S. Tanner, (D-TN) – Ways & Means

Texas

Lloyd Doggett, (D-TX) – Ways & Means

Sam Johnson, (R-TX) – Ways & Means

Kevin Brady, (R-TX) – Ways & Means

Utah

Orrin G. Hatch, (R-UT) – Senate Finance Committee

Vermont

Virginia

Eric Cantor, (R-VA) – Ways & Means

Washington

Maria Cantwell, (D-WA) – Senate Finance Committee

Jim McDermott, (D-WA) – Ways & Means

West Virginia

John D. Rockefeller IV, (D-WV) – Senate Finance Committee

Wisconsin

Ron Kind, (D-WI) – Ways & Means

Paul Ryan, (R-WI) – Ways & Means

Wyoming

Medicare Reform – The Medicare Physician Fee (“Doc”) Fix

To offset the "DOC FIX", Rep. Stark proposed additional cuts to oxygen and the elimination of first-month purchase option of PMD.

While the Senate managed to keep the Medicare provisions out of the SCHIP bill, Medicare cuts will be addressed again before the end of the year. We must call to ensure that cuts to DME are NOT included in any upcoming Medicare Reform Bill/ “Doc Fix.”

Concerns/Talking points for Oxygen cuts:

- Over the past ten years, Congress has already reduced Medicare reimbursement for oxygen therapy by nearly 50 percent.
- More cuts put more seniors at risk and could lead to unnecessary hospital admissions and ER visits due to improper oxygen saturation
- Most Medicare home oxygen patients need oxygen to treat a debilitating pulmonary disease such as the incurable Chronic Pulmonary Obstructive Disease
- A shorter cap on oxygen will force over half of Medicare's home oxygen patients to own their own equipment and thus be responsible for recalls, maintenance and service requirements, not to mention maneuvering heavy oxygen tanks.
- Patient choice will also be seriously curtailed. For example, if a patient's needs change after 13 months, they are stuck with the equipment they were forced to own at 13 months

Concerns/Talking points for PMD:

- Because many power wheelchairs are individualized for the patient, eliminating the first-month purchase option will dramatically reduce access for beneficiaries who suffer from long-term conditions such as multiple sclerosis, Lou Gehrig's disease, spinal cord injuries or paralysis.
- Power wheelchairs are uniquely configured for the individual beneficiary and are not interchangeable with other beneficiaries. It makes no sense to rent an item that is uniquely configured for an individual.
- Information from a CMS contractor, the SADMERC, indicates that virtually 100% of Medicare beneficiaries needing power wheelchairs purchase them on day one. Beneficiaries with severe disabilities use their PWCs daily and for the rest of their lives. There is little reason to rent these devices.
- Analysis from the American Association for Homecare shows that eliminating the first-month purchase option would result in the Medicare program paying 5 percent more for power wheelchairs than they currently pay.
- There are significant up front costs associated with providing power wheelchairs. These costs include, but are not limited to, assessing the beneficiary, fittings and adjustments, providing demonstration product, education and delivery as well as equipment acquisition costs, which are significant and are borne by the supplier prior to submitting a claim to Medicare.