

Dear Representative [NAME]:

I am writing to voice my support for H.R. 3790, proposed legislation to correct flaws in the restrictive Medicare bidding process for home medical equipment providers implemented by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

As you are likely aware, the Federal government enacted this bidding process in a cost-cutting move last year, with disastrous results. Online instructions caused massive confusion for bidders, a majority of applicants were erroneously disqualified from the process with no ability to appeal, and contracts were awarded to some who did not apply. The problems were so massive that Congress passed the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act, temporarily halting the entire process.

This October, the bidding program was restarted – without addressing many of the key issues identified in the first go-round – in nine cities across the U.S., including Charlotte. Already businesses like mine are being affected by rules that keep us from participating in the bidding process and threatening our livelihoods, with more to come as this program is expanded statewide in the near future.

I firmly believe that North Carolina home medical equipment patients and small businesses will benefit from H.R. 3790. If passed, it will provide proven local providers like me with greater impetus to grow our customer base, produce and sell more products, and hire more workers and expand operations in our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration in supporting H.R. 3790.