

During part of the dialogue, it was mentioned that Medicare blames medical equipment suppliers for the high costs, although no HME business owners were interviewed for the story. At the tail end, one of the anchors mentioned the Competitive Bidding program in Charlotte and how it was controversial, and also mentioned that a spokeswoman for NCAMES declined to comment on Medicare policy for the story.

All told, the story did not "go after" the HME industry, but there were bits and pieces that did side with CMS. We were not involved in the development of the story, but rather were asked after the piece was put together if we'd care to comment on behalf of the industry on Medicare's policy or rationale for paying what they do for wheelchairs. Not knowing the content of the piece nor the slant, we politely declined – especially when asked to comment on why Medicare does what they do, while providing the reporter with detailed information on the service aspect of providing HME to patients in need.

NCAMES is taking advantage of the heightened buzz produced by this story to distribute a press release today, Wednesday, using many of the keywords and phrases from this news story, albeit taking things in a different direction, announcing our YouTube channel, [YouTube.com/SaveJobsNC](https://www.youtube.com/SaveJobsNC). This press release includes definitive information surrounding the service aspect of providing HME, specifically mentioning a wheelchair example to rebut some of the claims of CMS on the WRAL-TV piece, although we are not directly addressing WRAL-TV by name.