



September 28, 2011

Dear Fellow LTCH Leader:

The Asheville Specialty Hospital, Barlow Respiratory Hospital, CHRISTUS Health, Drake Center, New England Sinai Hospital, Partners Continuing Care/Spaulding Rehabilitation Network, and Texas Health Resources Long-Term Care Hospitals (LTCH) are very pleased to endorse Senate Bill 1486, sponsored by Senators Pat Roberts (R-KS), Bill Nelson (D-FL), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Dean Heller (R-NV), Pat Toomey (R-PA), and Ron Wyden (D-OR). We appreciate these Senators' support of legislation that clarifies a unique role for LTCHs and brings regulatory stability and "25% Rule" relief to our field.

Our 24 not-for-profit LTCHs actively support the Roberts-Nelson bill since it takes concrete steps to distinguish LTCHs from general acute hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, and skilled nursing facilities. This is an essential and long-overdue clarification that puts to rest concerns that LTCHs are treating patients that belong in less-intensive settings.

The Roberts-Nelson bill is the best opportunity to preserve the LTCH setting for severely ill, long-stay patients IF we all pull together. An industry-wide campaign is needed to get S.1486 passed in the current Washington environment. LTCHs are highly unlikely to get a better chance to secure 25% Rule relief, so we urge every LTCH to rally and support S.1486 before this window of opportunity closes.

**Let's unite as LTCHs and pass the Roberts-Nelson Bill.** The signers of this letter will be calling you to urge your endorsement of the bill.

Sincerely,

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CEO  
Asheville Specialty Hospital

**Terry Dunn FACHE**  
Exec. Director, Drake Center  
Vice Pres., University of  
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**David Storto**  
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