

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 11, 2010

Donald Berwick, M.D.
Administrator
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 314
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Administrator Berwick:

We are writing to request that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) disclose to us the list of the providers, by product category, whose bids were used to calculate the single payment amounts under the re-bid of Round One of the competitive bidding program for durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS). Without knowing the identity as well as the appropriate overall qualifications of these providers, we cannot evaluate the program's impact in terms of quality and access to care for seniors we represent.

As you are aware, during the initial Round One bidding process in 2008, a significant number of providers who signed contracts were later determined to be sufficiently flawed in their qualifications. Among the problems that surfaced were that bidders did not have the financial resources to deliver services to a larger number of patients or they had no experience in the product categories for which they were awarded bids. Additionally, it was discovered that several "winners" did not have the required certification or licensure to provide the devices and services for which they were awarded contracts, or they simply did not have a physical location in the area. It was for these reasons and others that Congress delayed implementation of the program and required a re-bid.

We want to ensure that qualified providers have been chosen to provide these items and services to our constituents. Our district hospitals, physicians and elders who rely on home medical equipment services will be dependent on the winning bid companies for these critical in-home products. The healthcare community will again have very serious problems if it turns out once more that these companies are unable to provide sufficient access to quality items and services or do not have the financial ability to operate under the new contracted rates.

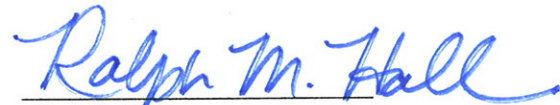
We understand that it is the intent of CMS to release the names of the winning providers in September after it has finalized contracts with these companies. Given the concerns with this process in the past, we seek this information now in order to evaluate the Round One re-bid in an open and transparent manner.


Accordingly, we respectfully request that CMS provide to us a list of the names of the suppliers, product categories and competitive bidding areas for each of the suppliers whose bids were used to determine the payment amounts no later than Friday, August 20, in order to enable us to appropriately assess the program's ability to meet the medical needs of our constituents.

We look forward to receipt of the requested information promptly, and thank you for your cooperation in enabling us to protect the health interests of our seniors.

Sincerely,

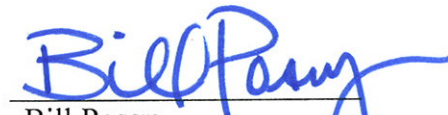

Jason Altmire

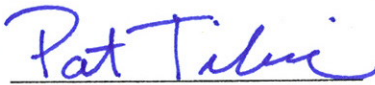

Ralph Hall


Bob Inglis


Michael T. McCaul



James R. Langevin



Bill Posey

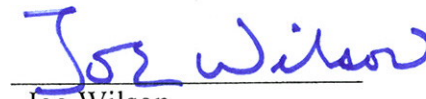

Patrick J. Tiberi


Ron Paul



Todd W. Akin


Bill Shuster


Debbie Wasserman
Schultz


Joe Wilson



Phil Gingrey



John Barrow

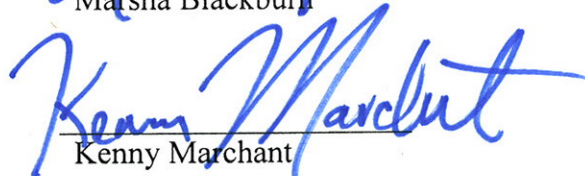

Glenn Thompson


Joe Courtney


Michael A. Arcuri


Marsha Blackburn


Paul Tonko


Kenny Marchant

Sue Myrick

Sue Myrick

Chris Murphy

Chris Murphy

Suzanne M. Kosmas

Suzanne Kosmas

Ginny Brown-Waite

Ginny Brown-Waite

Charlie Gonzalez

Charlie Gonzalez

Chris Carney

Chris Carney

Ron Klein

Ron Klein

Jean Schmidt

Jean Schmidt

Rodney Alexander

Rodney Alexander

Tom Price

Tom Price

Tim Murphy

Tim Murphy

Phil Hare

Phil Hare

Paul C. Broun

Paul C. Broun

Aaron Schock

Aaron Schock

Peter King

Peter King

Larry Kissell

Larry Kissell

Mike Dolye

Mike Dolye

Brad Ellsworth

Brad Ellsworth

Steve Driehaus

Steve Driehaus

Pete Olson

Pete Olson

John R. Carter

John R. Carter

Kathy Dahlkemper

Kathy Dahlkemper

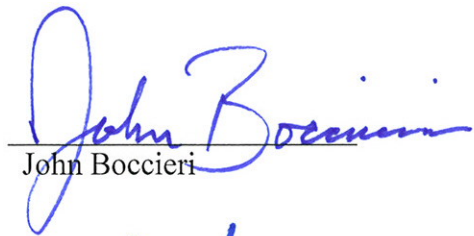
Steve Cohen

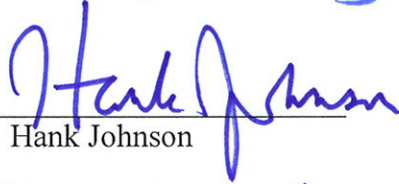
Steve Cohen

John Boehner

John Boehner


Steve King


John Bocchieri

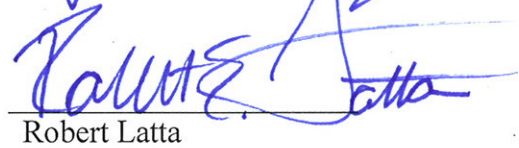

Hank Johnson


Michael Conaway

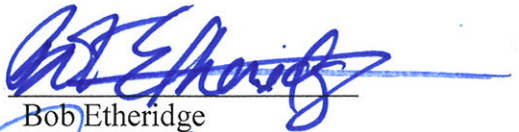

Bobby Bright

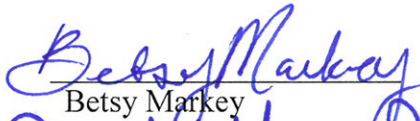

Joe Donnelly

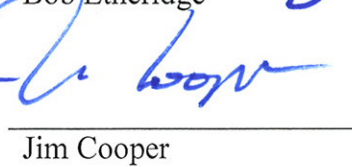

Lynn Westmoreland

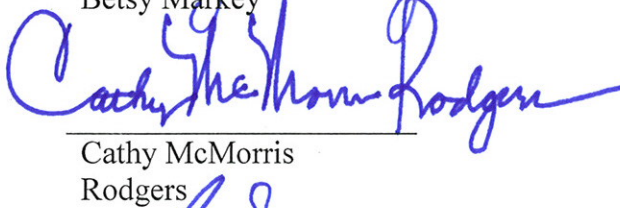

Robert Latta


John Hall



Bob Etheridge

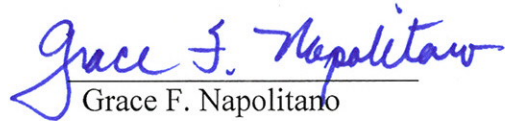

Betsy Markey

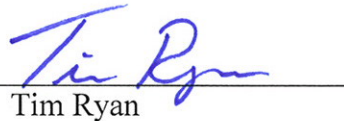

Jim Cooper


Cathy McMorris
Rodgers


Niki Tsongas

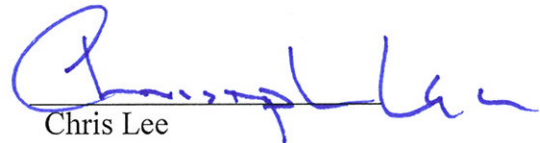

Sam Graves

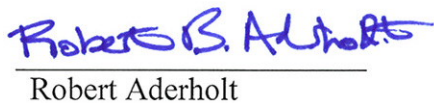

Grace F. Napolitano


Tim Ryan


Steve Austria

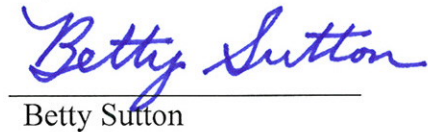

Randy Neugebauer


Chris Lee


Robert Aderholt


Daniel Lipinski


Eddie Bernice Johnson

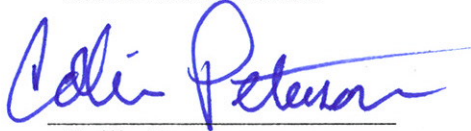

Betty Sutton



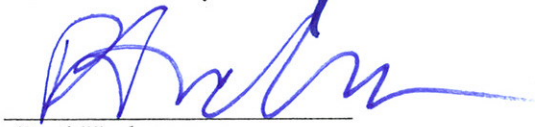
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen



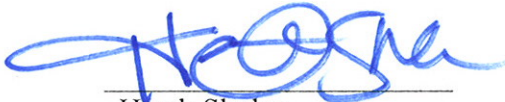
Peter Visclosky



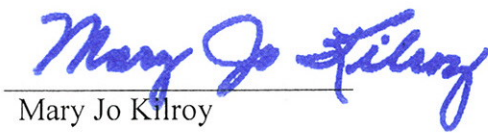
Collin Peterson



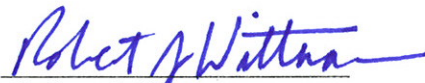
Paul Hodes



Heath Shuler



Mary Jo Kilroy



Robert J. Wittman



John Lewis



Zachary Space



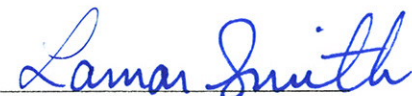
Jim McDermott



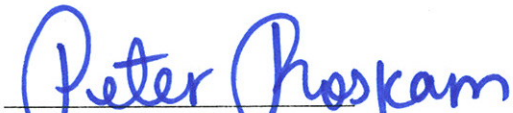
Charlie Dent



David Wu



Lamar Smith



Peter Roskam



Danny K. Davis

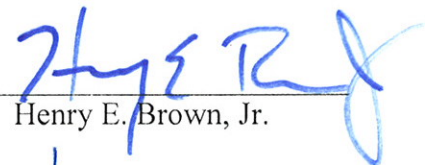


Timothy Bishop



Leonard Boswell

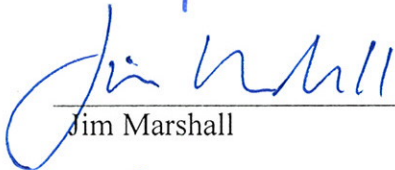
Gus Bilirakis



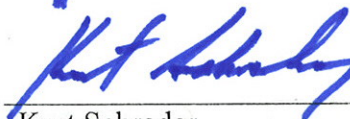
Henry E. Brown, Jr.



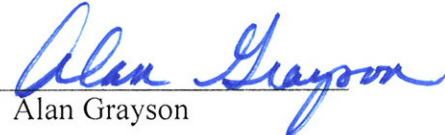
J. Gresham Barrett



Jim Marshall



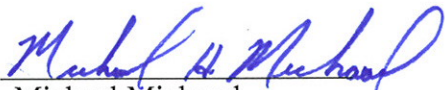
Kurt Schrader





Alan Grayson




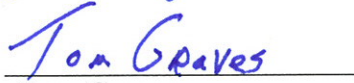
Mike McIntyre



Michael Michaud

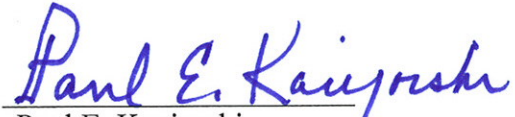

Michael R. Turner


Jerry Lewis

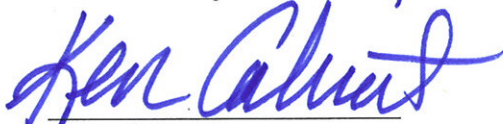

Gary Ackerman

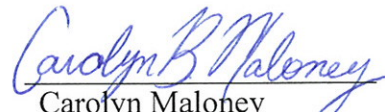

Tom Graves

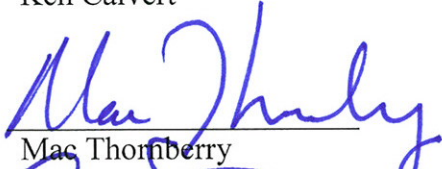

Joe Baca



Paul E. Kanjorski

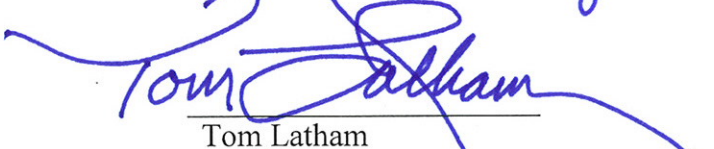

Barney Frank



Ken Calvert

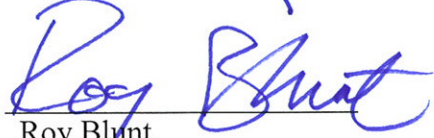

Carolyn Maloney

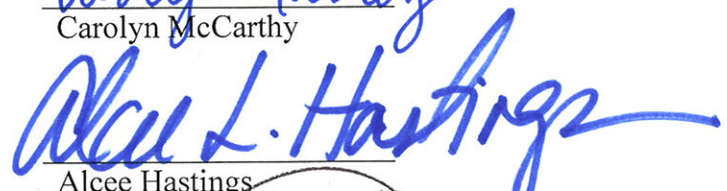

Mac Thornberry

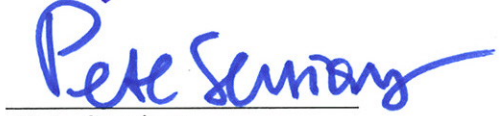

Jerrold Nadler


Tom Latham


Carolyn McCarthy


Roy Blunt

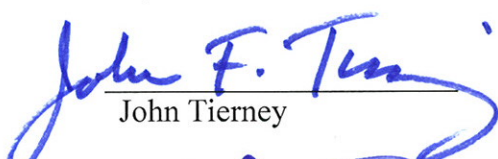

Alcee Hastings


Pete Sessions


Charles Rangel


Jo Bonner


James Oberstar


John Tierney


William Owens


Ted Deutch


Cliff Stearns

Steven LaTourette

Steven LaTourette

Mark Critz

Mark Critz

Chris Smith

Chris Smith

Maurice Hinchey

Maurice Hinchey

Dan Burton

Dan Burton

Jo Ann Emerson

Jo Ann Emerson

Joseph Crowley

Joseph Crowley

Todd Russell Platts

Todd Russell Platts

Bill Young

Bill Young

Steve Israel

Steve Israel

Jerry Costello

Jerry Costello

Tom Cole

Tom Cole

Ed Whitfield

Ed Whitfield

Louise Slaughter

Louise Slaughter

Bruce Braley

Bruce Braley

Joe Sestak

Joe Sestak

Judy Biggert

Judy Biggert

Mark Kirk

Mark Steven Kirk

Rosa DeLauro

Rosa DeLauro

John W. Olver

John Olver