



June 10, 2026

The Honorable Roger Marshall
U.S Senate
479A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Marshall:

The American Association for Homecare (AAHomecare) is writing to express our strong support for the Medicare Advantage Improvement Act of 2026 (S.4384), and to thank you for your leadership in introducing this vital measure. This landmark bill would directly address some of the most persistent and damaging barriers that durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) providers face when serving Medicare Advantage beneficiaries. AAHomecare recognizes Senator Marshall for his leadership and calls upon Congress to move swiftly to advance this bill.

AAHomecare is confident that S.4384 would deliver meaningful and long-overdue improvements across several areas of urgent concern to our members and the patients they serve:

Prior Authorization Reform: The bill's requirement that Medicare Advantage organizations respond to standard authorization requests within 72 hours and expedited requests within 24 hours would significantly reduce the delays that too frequently leave patients without timely access to medically necessary equipment and services. AAHomecare has long championed prior authorization reform, and we are encouraged to see these vital patient protections included in the bill.

Protection Against Retroactive Denials: DMEPOS suppliers have long contended with the deeply harmful practice of retroactive claims denials which includes receiving authorization, delivering equipment in good faith, and then having payment clawed back after the fact. S.4384 would prohibit Medicare Advantage organizations from denying coverage for authorized items and services on medical necessity grounds once approval has been granted. This prohibition would be a critical and overdue safeguard for both providers and the beneficiaries who depend on them.

Real-Time Authorization for Routine Items: By requiring MA organizations to implement real-time authorization mechanisms for commonly approved, low-risk items and services, this bill would meaningfully reduce administrative burden carried by DMEPOS providers. It would ensure that seniors receive essential equipment including

standard wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, and other critical DMEPOS, without unnecessary delay or bureaucratic obstacle.

Data Reporting and Transparency: Requiring Medicare Advantage organizations to publicly report prior authorization denial rates, appeal outcomes, and approval timelines represents a critical step toward meaningful payer accountability. These transparency requirements would empower policymakers, providers, and patients with the data needed to identify abusive practices, drive systemic reform, and ensure that Medicare Advantage plans are fulfilling their obligations to enrollees. We commend you for including these provisions and view them as an essential component to the bill's authorization reforms.

We are grateful for your leadership and commitment to the patients and providers who rely on equitable access to home medical equipment. AAHomecare is committed to supporting the passage of S.4384, and we strongly urge Members of the Senate to cosponsor this bill. We look forward to working alongside you to ensure this important bill advances without delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom Ryan
President & CEO
The American Association for Homecare