

Dear Subcommittee: I am a practicing General Internist in Portland since 1990 and feel very strongly in favor of this bill. I gained Palliative Care training through University of Washington a few years ago and am part of the team working on teaching palliative care (PC) to my colleagues in primary care setting in Oregon. Implementing PC practices and communication within my own practice has deepened the relationships I have with my patients and how I feel about myself as a physician. Understanding what is really important to my patients and delivering care that is in alignment with their goals has given me a sense of fulfillment that I have not experienced in 30 years. My patients and their families are so grateful that they have been listened to. I feel I am critically important in the care. The specialists that I work with are also very grateful to me for handling these sensitive topics and frankly guiding their specialty care as well.

There is always, however, those last 1-2 years for my most frail and homebound of patients who really need palliative care and conversations around goals of care that fall through the cracks. Zoom visits are not sufficient. They need regular visits to their homes to provide and guide goal aligned care. Home Based Palliative Care would help bridge that gap. It is desperately needed. Please support this bill to help support this most important foundational start to Palliative Care in the home.

Thank you so much,  
Caroline Reay, MD, FACP