

October 14, 2024

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo,

The undersigned 143 national, state and local organizations express their support for the **Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2023 (H.R. 6407, S. 3297)**. Sponsored by U.S. Reps. Robin Kelly and Jen Kiggans, and U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Gary Peters, this bill would provide access to essential nutrition care services under Medicare Part B.

Medical nutrition therapy (MNT) is a multifaceted service that includes nutritional diagnosis, therapy, and counseling for the purpose of disease management. MNT is furnished by a registered dietitian or other qualified nutrition professional and is integral to the prevention, treatment, and management of chronic conditions such as diabetes, kidney disease, obesity, malnutrition, eating disorders, cancer, cardiovascular disease and more. As the nation struggles to find solutions for the burden of chronic diseases, evidence-based therapies such as MNT that address lifestyle factors independent of or in addition to pharmacological and other interventions are practical and clinically effective.

Current law only allows Medicare Part B to cover MNT services for kidney disease and diabetes, leaving millions of seniors without access to comprehensive care that could reduce and slow chronic disease progression, improve outcomes and enhance quality. The Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2023 would expand Medicare Part B MNT coverage to include prediabetes, obesity, hypertension, dyslipidemia, malnutrition, eating disorders, cancer, gastrointestinal diseases including celiac disease, HIV/AIDS, cardiovascular disease, and conditions related to unintentional weight loss. While Medicare beneficiaries have access to nutrition care during hospitalization, there is no follow-up care as they transition to home or community settings despite the well-published connection between MNT for these conditions and improvements in health outcomes.

Two-thirds of Medicare beneficiaries suffer from multiple chronic conditions and these challenges are even greater for the many racial and ethnic minority communities that have long faced chronic disease health disparities due to socioeconomic inequalities and reduced access to health care, healthy foods and safe places to be active.

Medical nutrition therapy is a cost-effective part of care for many of these costly conditions. We encourage you and your colleagues to help ensure that seniors have equitable access to care by supporting the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2023.

Sincerely,
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Academy of Physician Associates in Cardiology
Alliance of Wound Care Stakeholders
American Academy of PAs
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Association on Health and Disability
American Diabetes Association
American Gastroenterological Association
American Heart Association
American Psychological Association
American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery

American Society for Nutrition
Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists
Celiac Disease Foundation
Chron's and Colitis Foundation
Center for Telehealth and E-Law (CTeL)
Coalition for Kidney Health
Color of Gastrointestinal Illnesses
Diabetes Leadership Council
Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action
Endocrine Society
FMI – The Food Industry Association
Food Allergy Research and Education
Food Is medicine Institute at Tufts University
Global Liver Institute
Lakeshore Foundation
National Association of Hispanic Nurses
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Consumer League
National Council on Aging
National Hispanic Health Foundation
National Kidney Foundation
Meals on Wheels America
Obesity Action Coalition
Obesity Care Advocacy Network
Obesity Medicine Association
Oley Foundation
Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior
STOP Obesity Alliance
Teaching Kitchen Collaborative
The Obesity Society
Touchpoint Support Services
United Ostomy Associations of America, Inc.
U.S. Oncology Network

State and Local Organizations

California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (California)
California Food is Medicine Coalition (California)
Central Valley District, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (California)
Inland District, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (California)
Los Angeles Region, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (California)
Nutrition Therapy Essentials (California)
MNT Reimbursement Specialists, Inc (Bakersfield, California)
Dr. Sangeeta Nutrition (Irvine, California)
Healthy Mission Dietitian, Inc. (Monrovia, California)
Colorado Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Colorado)
Daily Dietetics, LLC (Colorado Springs, Colorado)
Moxie Mind (Denver, Colorado)
Nutrition Edge Communications (Denver, Colorado)
Kala Nutrition, LLC (Fort Collins, Colorado)
ActivEnergy Nutrition LLC (Littleton, Colorado)
Plant Forward Endurance Nutrition (Longmont, Colorado)
McCrea & Associates, Nutrition Management Systems (Windsor, Colorado)

Dietitian Driven (Connecticut)
Life Focus Nutrition Centers (Connecticut)
Flourish Nutrition (Delaware)
Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Florida)
Neighborly Care Network (Clearwater, Florida)
Cinet Registered Dietitians & Wellness (Orange Park, Florida)
BE*You*tiful Nutrition (Pensacola, Florida)
Healthy for Life Nutrition Counseling (Punta Gorda, Florida)
Georgia Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Georgia)
Open Hand Atlanta (Atlanta, Georgia)
Sustainable Nutrition Counseling, LLC (Atlanta, Georgia)
Living Health (Douglasville, Georgia)
DLMCreations, LLC (Fayetteville, Georgia)
Nina's Nutritional Values, LLC (McDonough, Georgia)
Idaho Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Idaho)
Illinois Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Illinois)
All Access Dietetics (Illinois)
Chicago Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Chicago, Illinois)
KayleeBtheRD LLC (Darien, Illinois)
Eating Pattern LLC (Springfield, Illinois)
Aligned Health Practice, LLC (Carmel, Indiana)
Free State Nutrition (Lawrence, Kansas)
Kansas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Kansas)
Manhattan Nutrition Clinic (Manhattan, Kansas)
Rethink Nutrition, LLC (Manhattan, Kansas)
Unbound Recovery (Manhattan, Kansas)
Kentucky Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Kentucky)
Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Louisiana)
Maryland Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Maryland)
Nutrition and Diabetes Education Center (Glenn Dale, Maryland)
Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation (Cambridge, Massachusetts)
EveryBody Nutrition Counseling LLC (Chelmsford, Massachusetts)
Community Servings (Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts)
Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Michigan)
Trinity Health (Livonia, Michigan)
MHP Salud (Yosilanti, Michigan)
Minnesota Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Minnesota)
Endocrinology Clinic of Minneapolis (Edina, Minnesota)
Evergreen Health and Wellness, LLC (Kearney, Missouri)
Kelsey Essink Nutrition (La Vista, Nebraska)
Healthy in the Kitchen, LLC (New Hampshire)
Nutrition Journey (Derry, New Hampshire)
New York State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (New York)
Inclusive Nutrition Counseling PLLC (New York)
Metropolitan NYC WIC Association (New York)
Hescott Nutrition Services, LLC (Brooklyn, New York)
Doctor Joyce (Kingston, New York)
Karen Collins Nutrition (Jamestown, New York)
Northwell (Manhasset, New York)
Swap Health (New York, New York)
University of Rochester Medical Center (Rochester, New York)
Kelly's Choice (Skaneateles, New York)

Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc (Booneville, North Carolina)
North Dakota Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (North Dakota)
Haven of Health (Minot, North Dakota)
Ohio Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Ohio)
Nutrition Access LLC (Cincinnati, Ohio)
Sound Bites Nutrition, LLC (Cincinnati, Ohio)
Wheatheart Nutrition Project, Inc (Blackwell, Oklahoma)
MySurgeryPlate, LLC (Beaverton, Oregon)
Pennsylvania Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Pennsylvania)
Pentec Health, Inc (Glen Mills, Pennsylvania)
April Rudat, Registered Dietitian LLC (Moscow, Pennsylvania)
Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance (MANA) (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
Koran Watson Haven of Health, LLC (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
The Community Grocer (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
Rhode Island Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Rhode Island)
Rhode Island Nutrition Therapy (North Kingstown, Rhode Island)
HINT RD LLP (North Kingstown, Rhode Island)
Berman Nutrition Services (Warwick, Rhode Island)
Lowcountry Street Grocery (Charleston, South Carolina)
Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Texas)
Panhandle Nutrition Therapy (Amarillo, Texas)
Relish Nutrition Therapy (Austin, Texas)
Doherty Nutrition LLC (Dallas, Texas)
Loaves and Fishes of the RGV (Harlington, Texas)
Complete Nutrition Solutions (McAllen, Texas)
Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley (Pharr, Texas)
EatWell Nutrition Counseling Services (San Antonio, Texas)
Unidos Contra La Diabetes (Weslaco, Texas)
Salt Lake NutriCoaching (Sandy, Utah)
Grammy's Num Numz (Granite Falls, Washington)
True for You Nutrition, LLC (Olympia, Washington)
Ginger Hultin Nutrition, PLCC (Seattle, Washington)
Greater Seattle Dietetic Association (Washington)

Industry

Berry Street
CCL Hospitality Group
FoodSmart
Healthcare Corporation of America (HCA)
The Kroger Co.
Morrison Healthcare
Noom, Inc.