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July 17, 2025

NAAOP Applauds Bipartisan Re-introduction of Medicare O&P Patient-Centered Care Act (H.R. 4475; S. 2329) in U.S. House and Senate

Washington, D.C. — The National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics (NAAOP) proudly supports today’s introduction of the bipartisan, bicameral Medicare Orthotic and Prosthetic (O&P) Patient-Centered Care Act (H.R. 4475; S. 2329) in the 119th Congress. This transformative legislation reflects a strong, united commitment to improving access to high-quality orthotic and prosthetic care for individuals with limb loss and limb impairment while protecting the Medicare program from fraud and abuse.

NAAOP worked closely with the American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association (AOPA) and additional members of the O&P Alliance, including the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists, the Board of Certification/Accreditation (BOC), and the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics (ABC), in moving this bill toward introduction.

NAAOP applauds Representatives Glenn “G.T.” Thompson (R-PA), Mike Thompson (D-CA), Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), and Debbie Dingell (D-MI) in the House and Senators Steve Daines (R-MT) and Mark Warner (R-VA) in the Senate, for their leadership in introducing this important legislation. We are deeply grateful for their steadfast support of individuals with limb loss, limb impairment, and other orthopedic conditions. Their efforts help ensure that patients receive timely, medically appropriate care from trained and credentialed O&P professionals in collaboration with rehabilitation physicians and therapists.

“NAAOP urges members of the House and Senate to co-sponsor and swiftly pass the Medicare O&P Patient-Centered Care Act,” stated Nate Kapa, C.P., President of NAAOP. “This bipartisan legislation ensures care is delivered by qualified professionals, modernizes outdated Medicare policies, and addresses healthcare fraud and unnecessary barriers to timely treatment.”

“With Medicare OTS orthotic competitive bidding scheduled to be re-started in the next year or two and increasing national focus on Medicare program integrity, this bill comes at a critical moment to close dangerous loopholes, support ethical clinical care, and improve outcomes for patients,” stated George W. Breece, Executive Director of NAAOP.

The Medicare O&P Patient-Centered Care Act addresses key challenges in Medicare that limit access to essential O&P services and permit bad actors to exploit the system. As highlighted by the U.S. Department of Justice’s June 30, 2025 announcement of the largest healthcare fraud “takedown” in U.S. history, criminals continue to abuse the Medicare program, including in the area of orthotic benefits. At the same time, outdated policies prevent certified clinicians from providing off-the-shelf (OTS) orthoses unless they hold a competitive bidding contract—a requirement not imposed on physicians and therapists, who are able to provide OTS orthoses at

the point of service but at the competitively bid payment rate. Patients also face delays in care due to rigid rules that deny coverage for replacement orthoses, even when their medical condition has changed.

This legislation offers three targeted reforms to resolve these issues. It would exempt licensed and certified orthotists and prosthetists from needing a competitive bidding contract to provide off-the-shelf orthoses, increasing access without increasing costs. It would prohibit the drop shipping of custom-fabricated and custom-fitted orthotics and prosthetics to patients without in-person clinical care, helping to reduce fraud and ensure safe treatment. And it would require Medicare to cover replacements for custom orthoses when medically necessary, regardless of whether the device has reached the five-year “useful lifetime,” aligning orthotic policy with that of prosthetic limbs.

“We are grateful that 47 national disability and rehabilitation organizations join NAAOP in supporting this important bill, including consumer, clinical and research organizations,” stated Peter Thomas, general counsel to NAAOP. “We strongly support this legislation and urge swift passage by Congress.

To encourage YOUR Representative and two Senators to cosponsor this legislation, click [HERE](#) or go to NAAOP’s Congressional Action Center to easily send emails to Congress seeking co-sponsorship of these bills.

As a national nonprofit organization, NAAOP is dedicated to advancing the interests of individuals with limb loss, limb impairment, and all those who rely on orthotic and prosthetic care. Our mission is to ensure access to clinically appropriate, patient-centered services delivered by licensed and certified O&P professionals.

For further information, please contact Peter W. Thomas, JD, at Peter.Thomas@PowersLaw.com or 202-872-6730.

Supporting Organizations of the Medicare O&P Patient-Centered Care Act

Access Ready, Inc.
ACCSES
All Wheels Up
American Academy of Orthotists & Prosthetists
American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
American Association on Health and Disability
American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics
Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
American Cochlear Implant Alliance
American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine
American Music Therapy Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Society of Hand Therapists
American Therapeutic Recreation Association

Amputee Coalition
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network
Board of Certification/Accreditation
Buoniconti Fund to Cure Paralysis
Center for Medicare Advocacy
Center on Aging and DIS-Ability Policy
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Clinician Task Force
Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation
CureLGMD2i Foundation
3DA
Institute for Matching Person & Technology
Lakeshore Foundation
Miami Project to Cure Paralysis
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Rehabilitation Providers and Agencies
National Association of Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers
National Disability Rights Network
National Registry of Rehabilitation Technology Suppliers
Paralyzed Veterans of America
RESNA
Simon Foundation for Continence
Spina Bifida Association
The Viscardi Center
United Cerebral Palsy
United Spinal Association
VisionServe Alliance