



May 8, 2024

The Honorable Jason Smith  
Chairman  
Ways and Means Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member  
Ways and Means Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Neal

On behalf of the American College of Physicians (ACP), I am writing to express support for extending the telehealth flexibilities that were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic and are scheduled to expire at year end. To prevent this from happening, ACP supports the Preserving Telehealth, Hospital, and Ambulance Access Act, which would extend these flexibilities for two years until the end of 2026. Longer term stability would strengthen patient care, so we also encourage the Ways and Means Committee to include legislation in this mark-up, like the CONNECT for Health Act of 2023, H.R. 4189, the Protecting Rural Telehealth Access Act, H.R. 3440, and the Telehealth Modernization Act of 2024, H.R. 7623, which facilitate access to care via telehealth permanently.

ACP is the largest medical specialty organization and the second largest physician membership society in the United States. ACP members include over 100,000 internal medicine physicians, related subspecialists, and medical students. Internal medicine physicians are specialists who apply scientific knowledge, clinical expertise, and compassion to the preventive, diagnostic, and



health care team, and reduce medical costs when used as a component of a patient's longitudinal care. Extending the current flexibilities for at least an additional two years gives

addition to allowing health centers and rural health clinics to provide telehealth services. ACP supports these bills as well.

## Conclusion

We strongly encourage the Committee to support legislation to permanently extend the current telehealth flexibilities in addition to a two-year extension. Telehealth services are critical to ensuring everyone has access to affordable, high-quality healthcare especially those who are vulnerable and reside in rural and underserved communities. If you have any questions, please contact George Lyons at [glyons@acponline.org](mailto:glyons@acponline.org)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Opole', is positioned above two horizontal green lines. The signature is somewhat stylized and cursive.

Isaac O. Opole, MD, PHD, FACP

President