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April 13, 2009

The Honorable Danny Davis
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Davis:

On behalf of the patients we serve, National Patient Advocate Foundation is pleased to offer its strong support for H.R. 1670, the "Community Choice Act of 2009." This bipartisan legislation provides people with disabilities and older Americans who need an institutional level of care the choice of receiving their services and support in their own homes and communities, rather than in an institution. The Community Choice Act would make community-based attendant care services an alternative for Medicaid recipients if states determine they are eligible under their Medicaid plans for nursing home care.

National Patient Advocate Foundation (NPAF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving access to healthcare services through policy reform. The advocacy activities of NPAF are informed and influenced by the experience of patients who receive case management services from our companion organization, Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF). Last year, PAF received more than 9.5 million inquiries from patients throughout the United States seeking assistance for access to care issues resulting from diagnoses of a chronic, debilitating or life-threatening disease. Of those, 48,369 became full patient cases involving communications made by PAF staff on behalf of a patient in order to reach positive resolution.

NPAF supports the Community Choice Act of 2009 which allows states and consumers to obtain more cost effective long-term services, including skilled and unskilled care, in the most appropriate setting for the individual and provide equal access to community-based attendant services in order to assist individuals in achieving equal opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency. Thank you for your continuing efforts on behalf of patients. We will continue to watch with interest the movement of this important legislation through the United States Congress.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Davenport-Ennis
President & CEO