Dec. 29

December 18, 2007

Patient Name and Address

Marian Muenstermann
6965 Roby
Waterford, Mi. 48327

Congressman or Representative

Joe Knollenberg
2349 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Co-sponsor of HR 621 and S 1484

Dear Mr. Knollenberg,

I am an oxygen patient and your constituent. In consideration of the deficit that we are all suffering and I am pleading for you to support legislation that restores the Medicare coverage of home oxygen equipment to the previous manner and level of coverage prior to provisions in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

As one of my elected officials in Congress I ask that you co-sponsor HR 621 and S 1484, The Home Oxygen Patient Protection Act of 2007. Medicare law now requires the transfer of ownership of all home oxygen equipment to the Medicare beneficiary after 36 months of equipment rental.

Furthermore, I also believe that a clear fact was overlooked when this provision was enacted and that is oxygen equipment in not just another commodity such as a bed or wheelchair. Turning over ownership and responsibility of oxygen equipment is turning over responsibility of life-sustaining medical equipment, which if it is not in working order can easily harm or lead to ones death.

As an oxygen patient, I am very concerned. I simply may not be able to handle the complexities of owning and taking care of my own oxygen equipment. As a Medicare patient I am on this physician-prescribed drug to maintain and sustain my life. Turning the responsibility over to me to assure that the life-sustaining equipment is operational and not in need of service or maintenance is not appropriate.

I thank you for taking out the time to read my letter and please co-sponsor HR 621 and S 1484.

Sincerely,

Marian Muenstermann

I don't think I should have to pay for maintaince of my oxygen equipment - also the machine I have now has been used - Also if they limit the size of tanks I can use it puts a hard ship. The large tanks are heavy and are awkward to push. Pushing a grocery cart and the tank would be diffient to do. Most of us are older and on limited income.