

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 14, 2009


The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515


Dear Madam Speaker,


Physician-owned hospitals are a vital player in the cadre of health care providers, especially in Texas and Florida. Hospitals such as Baylor consistently rank among the top in the nation in quality of care and patient outcomes. Certain specialties, such as inpatient rehabilitation, must meet standards set by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in order to be reimbursed for the care that they provide.

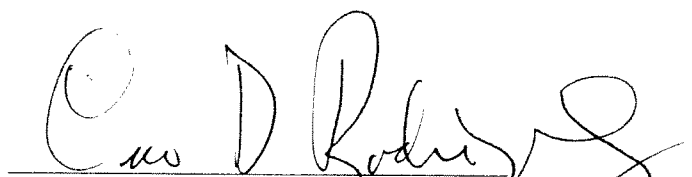
The current House version of the health care reform legislation contains language that will prohibit these hospitals from expanding, unless they meet some strict criteria. Please consider the attached amendment that would remove these expansion restrictions. Let these hospitals continue to fill an important role in the communities that they serve well.

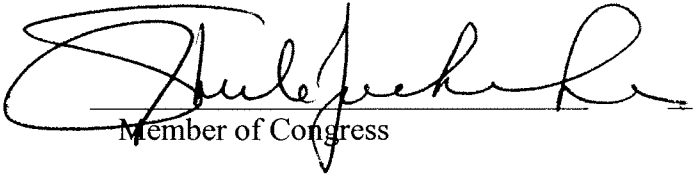
Sincerely,

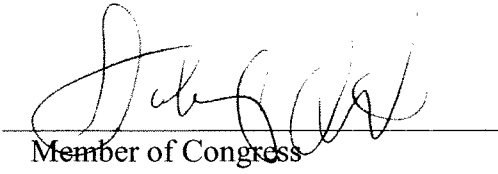

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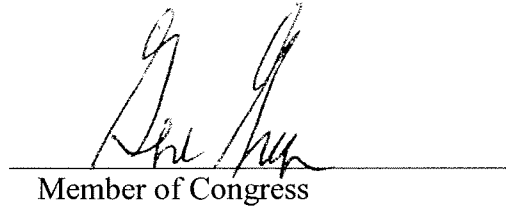

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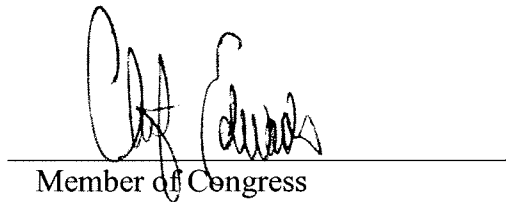

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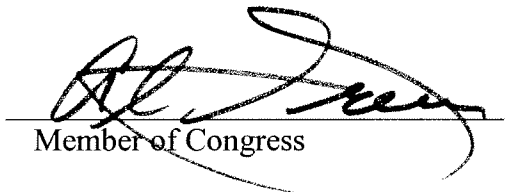

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**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3200, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MS. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON OF
TEXAS**

In subsection (i) of section 1877 of the Social Security Act, as added by section 1156(a)(5)—

(1) strike paragraph (1)(C);

(2) in paragraph (1), redesignate subparagraphs (D), (E), and (F) as (C), (D), and (E), respectively;

(3) strike paragraph (2); and

(4) redesignate paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively.

In section 1156(b), strike “(i)(4)” and insert “(i)(3)”.

