

January 2020

Dear:

My name is _____ and I am writing you today to ask for your support in co-sponsoring a bill that will help thousands of children and adults of all ages be able to obtain hearing devices through private insurance coverage. **This bill is H.R. 5485 and is also known as Ally's Act.** This legislation will help ensure that private insurance companies cover specific hearing devices known as bone anchored hearing devices and cochlear implants (known as osseointegrated devices, OIDs). These hearing devices are medically necessary and yet are consistently denied coverage by private insurance companies, despite the critical and life-changing support these devices provide to countless individuals.

This bill is important to me because I have a child or an adult who has a specific hearing loss that only these hearing devices can aid. Did you know that some children are born without ears and ear canals? Did you know that some children and adults no longer have a functioning auditory nerve or cochlea, causing them to be deaf? It is only these hearing devices that can help restore hearing for these children and adults with these types of hearing loss, so they can live safely, enabling them to engage within their communities and have successful fulfilling lives.

A 10 year old little girl, named Ally, wrote to Congress asking for help on this critical issue. Please help support Ally's Act and the thousands of US citizens just like her so they can afford these hearing devices and hear better.

The extension of coverage for OIDs, and the accompaniments, medical visits and surgeries that allow our loved ones to function, would benefit a large variety of our communities affected by hearing loss. **That is why Congressman Neguse (CO-02), alongside the cochairs of the House Hearing Health Caucus Congressmen David B. McKinley (WV-1) - who wears one of these very hearing devices and Mike Thompson (CA-5), introduced the bipartisan "Ally's Act" to require insurance providers to cover these critical and life-altering devices.**

This bill is **endorsed by** Ear Community, the American Cochlear Implant Alliance, the American Academy of Audiology and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Thank you so much for your time. Please help us by co-sponsoring **Ally's Act, H.R. 5485.**

Sincerely,

Address:

Ph:

E-mail: