

June 18, 2002

The Honorable William Thomas  
Chairman, House Committee on Ways & Means  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Thomas:

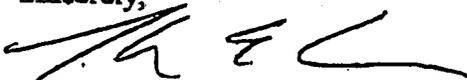
Thank you for your leadership and commitment to preserving and enhancing the quality of the critical Medicare program. As a U.S. manufacturer and provider of power wheelchairs and other personal mobility devices to patients in the private sector and Medicare settings, we are pleased with the positive reforms you have included in the Medicare Modernization and Prescription Drug Act of 2002.

Maintaining the strongest quality assurances for patient care and service has always been our primary goal at Hoveround Corporation. Our exhaustive compliance efforts, careful documentation of patient needs and afflictions and accreditation by JCAHO for our rehabilitative and home care services are more than sources of pride, they attest to the consistency, reliability and overall quality of the mobility assistance we provide tens of thousands of Medicare patients and that earned the trust of thousands more in the private marketplace.

Patients, taxpayers and Medicare should expect the same assurances and best value for all their healthcare dollars spent. The proposed acquisition reforms help move Medicare and the provider community in the right direction by requiring basic quality standards and accreditation that protects patients and their families. Such standards can only improve the quality, consistency and delivery of healthcare through products and services increasingly used in the growing home health setting.

We should expect the best value for health care products and services provided to Medicare beneficiaries. Best value should reflect not just better prices, but certain standards for delivery of care that impede fraud and abuse while promoting the favorable outcomes we desire for our patients. The standards and clear direction in your bill begin to move Medicare in that direction.

Sincerely,



Tom Kruse  
CEO, Hoveround Corporation