

“Call to Action” for Complex Rehab Technology

Congress Needs To Pass Legislation (H.R. 1516 and S. 1013) To Protect Access To Specialized Wheelchairs, Seating Systems, Other Adaptive Equipment

Legislation has been introduced in Congress to protect and improve access to specialized wheelchairs, seating systems, and other adaptive equipment used by people with significant disabilities and chronic medical conditions. These individually-configured products, referred to as Complex Rehab Technology (CRT), provide significant benefits and must remain available.

The legislation is the **“Ensuring Access to Quality Complex Rehabilitation Technology Act of 2015”** and is known by bill number **H.R. 1516** in the House and **S. 1013** in the Senate. This will create a Separate Benefit Category for CRT within the Medicare program (similar to the separate category given to Orthotics and Prosthetics) and provide needed changes and safeguards to improve access for people with disabilities who rely on this specialized equipment and the supporting services.

To help get Congress to pass this legislation, educational information and advocacy tools have been posted at www.access2crt.org in the **“Federal Issues”** area. There you will find a variety of resources you can access to learn more and reach out to Congress, including:

- **Introduction to CRT video** (10 minutes)- share this link with Congress and others to educate them on what CRT is, who uses it, why it’s important, and how it’s provided.
- **Educational Material**- view/download the **CRT Legislation Information Pack** and review other educational documents that can be shared with Congress to tell the CRT story.
- **Contact Congress link**- this link allows you to enter your zip code and email your Representative and both Senators requesting them to support **H.R. 1516 / S. 1013**. For best results personalize the suggested message with your own perspective and story.

Getting legislation through Congress is a real challenge. **H.R. 1516 / S. 1013** will only get passed if enough Members hear from constituents back in their home states. We need thousands of people from across the country to contact their Members and tell them this issue is important and that they need to sign on to this bill! **Here is your call to action:**

Step 1- Go to www.access2crt.org/federal-issues and review the **CRT Legislation Info Pack**

Step 2- Use the link to email your Members asking them to sign on to the bill as co-sponsors

Step 3- Follow up with your Members until they sign on.....THIS IS THE CRITICAL STEP

Step 4- Spread the word to others and get more people engaged in this advocacy

With everyone’s help we can get H.R. 1516 and S. 1013 passed and protect access to Specialized Wheelchairs, Seating Systems, and Other Adaptive Equipment!