



January 21, 2026

SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
c/o Valerie Bynog
U.S. House of Representatives
521 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
c/o Alex Urry
U.S. House of Representatives
2267 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: CPR Commends House Leadership for FY 2026 Labor-HHS-Education Funding Package and Urges Swift House Passage

Dear Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the undersigned steering committee members of the Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation (“CPR”), we write to thank you and your appropriations colleagues for including critical funding for programs that are essential to individuals with disabilities, chronic conditions, and injuries in the recently-released Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2026 Labor, Health and Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (“Labor-HHS-Education”) appropriations conference report. We urge the House of Representatives to pass this important legislative package as expeditiously as possible to avoid another federal government shutdown on February 1, 2026.

CPR is a coalition of more than 50 national consumer, clinician, and membership organizations that advocate for policies to ensure access to rehabilitative care so that individuals with injuries, illnesses, disabilities, and chronic conditions may regain and/or maintain the maximum level of health and independent function. CPR is comprised of organizations that represent patients—as well as the providers who serve them—who are frequently inappropriately denied access to rehabilitative care in a variety of settings.

We greatly appreciate the House’s recognition of the essential role that programs that support rehabilitation research, workforce development, patient protection, and community living play in supporting recovery, functional independence, community living, and overall quality of life for individuals with disabilities and other chronic conditions. Continued and sustained investment in programs such as the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (“NIDILRR”); the Administration for Community Living (“ACL”); Traumatic Brain Injury (“TBI”) programs; and related public health and research initiatives is vital to meeting the growing needs of people with disabilities and older adults nationwide.

CPR also thanks House leadership for including an extension of the Medicare telehealth flexibilities that were granted during the COVID-19 public health emergency through December 31, 2027, in the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations package. These flexibilities have proven critical in maintaining access to care—particularly for individuals with mobility limitations, those living in rural or underserved communities, and patients requiring ongoing rehabilitation and follow-up services. Preserving telehealth access remains an important component of a modern, patient-centered health care system.

We respectfully urge House leadership to move quickly to bring this Labor-HHS-Education language to the House floor for a vote as soon as possible. Timely House passage will allow this language to be sent promptly to the Senate, facilitating enactment into law for FY 2026 and providing much needed certainty and stability for the patients CPR member organizations collectively serve.

CPR stands ready to work with House and Senate leaders as the FY 2026 appropriations process advances. Thank you again for your leadership and for recognizing the importance of sustained federal investment in rehabilitation, disability, and telehealth services. Should you have any further questions regarding this information, please contact Peter Thomas or Michael Barnett, coordinators of the CPR, by e-mailing Peter.Thomas@PowersLaw.com or Michael.Barnett@PowersLaw.com, or by calling 202-466-6550.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Steering Committee Members of the Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation:

Brain Injury Association of America
Center for Medicare Advocacy
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Falling Forward Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
United Spinal Association