



California Academy of Audiology
Hear and Be Heard...

The Honorable Mike Ross
U.S. House of Representatives
314 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-3225

June 18, 2007

Dear Representative Ross,

On behalf of the California Academy of Audiology that represents over 1500 audiologists in the state, thank you for sponsoring and introducing HR1665!

Our academy endorses the Medicare Hearing Health Care Enhancement Act of 2007 (HR1665) because it will improve access to Medicare beneficiaries for important audio/vestibular evaluation and treatment. At the same time it will not diminish the role of medical doctors nor expand the scope of practice for audiologists.

Compelling facts further promote the spirit of this bill:

- The Department of Veterans Affairs has allowed veterans to see an audiologist directly since 1992. This has been proven to provide quality hearing health care in a cost effective way.
- The Federal Employee Health Benefits Program and many private health plans now allow direct access to audiologists as well.

We can not thank you enough for your diligence in passing legislation that makes sense and helps the hearing impaired population.

Warm Regards,

Rose A. Bongiovanni, Au.D.
Doctor of Audiology
President, California Academy of Audiology

Cc: Phil Bongiorno, American Academy of Audiology