



Thank you for the opportunity to testify. VAHHS is generally supportive of S.163, which provides flexibility and reflects current practice in some rural hospitals.

We did hear concerns from some physician members around Medicare standard of care [requirements](#) that every Medicare patient be under the care of a physician.

It is our understanding that other states have figured out how to implement these changes. Additionally, hospitals can set their own admitting and discharging privileges should this be an issue.