

RUSS FULCHER
FIRST DISTRICT, IDAHO

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1514 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6611
<http://fulcher.house.gov>



COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND
COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 19, 2025

The Honorable Mehmet Oz, M.D.
Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Administrator Oz,

Thank you to you and your team at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for your continued dedication to bolstering America's health care system. I especially appreciate your care for rural and underserved areas. One area in which CMS has distinguished itself is in seeking to implement the Rural Health Transformation Program. This program is significant in addressing the challenges that rural areas routinely face.

I am writing to express support for Idaho's application to the Rural Health Transformation Program. Idaho is home to a plethora of rural communities, and the people I represent rely on strong federal partners to ensure they can access healthcare for their critical needs. This issue is exacerbated by the fact that a large portion of Idaho is locked up as federal lands, preventing the state from taking care of itself.

In Idaho, patients frequently drive hours to reach health services, requiring significant commitments and causing inconveniences for my constituents. Idaho's proposal for the Rural Health Transformation Program was jointly crafted with the Idaho Rural Health Taskforce that included representatives from Idaho legislative leaders, executive branch officials, and tribal members. This collaboration also sought input from the public and stakeholders through a survey on the use of grant funds. Hundreds of Idahoans responded to this survey and provided feedback to the Taskforce.

Idaho's proposal focuses on five key initiatives: improving rural access to care through innovative technology incorporation, ensuring access to timely care, sustaining our rural workforce, implementing population-specific projects to make America healthy again, and investing in rural health infrastructure and partnerships.

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I respectfully encourage CMS to give Idaho's application strong consideration. Approval would support rural Idahoans who so often struggle with access to care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Russ Fulcher".

Russ Fulcher

Member of Congress

MERIDIAN OFFICE:
33 E BROADWAY AVE, SUITE 251
MERIDIAN, ID 83642
(208) 888-3188

LEWISTON OFFICE:
313 D STREET, SUITE 107
LEWISTON, ID 83501
(208) 743-1388

COEUR D'ALENE OFFICE:
1250 IRONWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 200
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83814
(208) 667-0127