

On November 20, I hosted a forum in Red Bluff with representatives from local hospitals and officials from Medicare and the Department of Health and Human Services.



The purpose of the session was to give hospital administrators an opportunity to ask questions and share their views on Medicare policies and regulations. Participants discussed a number of key issues facing rural Northern California hospitals, including the cost of implementing new electronic record-keeping systems, the challenge of recruiting physicians to rural areas, and efforts to reduce infections and improve coordination of care. I believe it's important for federal agencies to hear directly from the people who are affected by the policies they implement. As the chairman of the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health, I plan to use the input I receive from this and similar forums to work toward policies that improve the quality of health care and cut back on unnecessary paperwork for medical providers.