



NATIONAL GRANGE

Elevating rural interests since 1867

1616 H St. NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20006

September 29, 2025

The Honorable Jason Smith, Chairman
House Ways and Means Committee
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal, Ranking Member
House Ways and Means Committee
372 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Neal:

On behalf of the National Grange's 140,000 grassroots members in nearly 1,400 local chapters across the country, we urge your committee to pass the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of 2025 (TROA), H.R. 4231.

Rural residents face a long list of disparities in health care compared to their urban counterparts. Obesity is just one of those many disparities.

Statistics show that obesity rates in rural America are higher per capita (34.2%) than in urban settings (28.7%), and that rural Americans are more likely to depend on federal programs like Medicare for their insurance coverage. Also, many adults with obesity have other associated chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

Additionally, right now, Medicare does not cover the full continuum of obesity care, specifically excluding access to FDA-approved obesity medications because of decades old statutory language that is not aligned with current science and the evidence base. TROA can change that.

On behalf of our fellow rural residents across America, the National Grange appreciates the opportunity to share our support and urges your committee to once again pass TROA.

Respectfully,

Christine E. Hamp, President
National Grange