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HEALTH FACILITIES &
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth
United States Senate
524 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Letter of Support for Ambulance Acquisition Supporting Rural Medical Transfers

Dear Senator Duckworth,

I am writing to express my support for TransCare's initiative to purchase new ambulances to support critical care and non-critical medical transfers for rural hospitals across Southern Illinois, where medical transportation options are limited.

Many rural communities rely on a very limited number of EMS resources. In some counties, only one 911 ambulance is available to respond to emergencies. When that unit is required to leave the county for an interfacility medical transfer, the community may be left without local emergency coverage. Dedicated medical transfer ambulances are essential to ensuring patients can access needed care without compromising emergency response capacity.

TransCare plays a vital role in supporting both high acuity critical care transfers and routine, noncritical medical transport for rural hospitals. These services allow patients to safely access specialty care, diagnostic services, and appropriate post acute placement while preserving local EMS availability for emergency response.



Strengthening TransCare's fleet will improve reliability, reduce delays, and support hospitals and EMS agencies by ensuring transfers are handled safely and efficiently without depleting limited local resources. In rural areas, dependable medical transportation is not a convenience; it is a foundational component of healthcare access and system stability.

For these reasons, I fully support TransCare's ambulance acquisition effort and appreciate consideration of support for this important initiative.

Sincerely,

James M. Johnson
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