



Rep. Tom Emmer on Handi Medical Conference video

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****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Hello, everyone. Congressman Tom Emmer here. Thank you so much for inviting me to speak at today's Handy Medical Conference. Unfortunately, with a busy week in Washington, my schedule wouldn't allow for my attendance. I wish I could be with you, but I hope this video will make up for my absence. I got involved in politics 10 years ago, and I've had the honor of serving the great state of Minnesota ever since. During my time in office, I've met with Minnesotans from all walks of life. It's the best part of my job, meeting and speaking with everyone, and even though we might not always see eye to eye, it's imperative that these discussions are had and that every voice is heard. While we might not agree on every issue, I'd like to think that we all agree on this, that we all love our community, we all love the state of Minnesota, and we all love this great country. That's why I decided to get involved. I saw decisions were being made, and I just wasn't happy with how the decisions were affecting the state that I love. I know that's why you all chose to get involved as well. Your participation here today is immensely important. You're striving to create change for the better, and I really admire that. As you know, there's much uncertainty surrounding the competitive bidding program. Our rural suppliers have been hit the hardest by proposed changes to the bidding program, and it's those communities that most need these services. Rural communities should not suffer under the program. Former Representative Tom Price, our new Health and Human Services Secretary, led the effort to stop durable medical equipment reimbursement rates, and I was a co-sponsor of his legislation that would extend the phase-in of competitive bid rates for durable medical equipment in rural areas. I'm encouraged that he might use this expertise and his passion for rural communities in his new role. With everything that is going on in the health care field, I want you to know that you always have my ear and my time. Big changes are ahead, and I'm confident that these changes will make vast improvements on the daily lives of all Minnesotans. Thank you again for the invitation, but most importantly, thank you for your participation.

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