**Medical Nutrition Therapy Act (**[**H.R. 3108**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3108)**|**[**S. 1536**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1536)**) Letter Template to Congress**

To: [email address of your [**Senate**](https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) or [**House**](https://www.house.gov/representatives) member]

Subject: Request for Your Support of the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2021 [Insert either H.R 3108 or S.1536, as appropriate]

Dear Honorable [Insert Legislator’s Full Name]

My name is [Insert Your Name] and I am a [Insert Your Credentials and Practice Area]. As your constituent, I am writing today to urge you to support the Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) Act [Insert either H.R 3108 or S.1536, as appropriate] introduced in the 117th Congress in May 2021. This legislation would expand coverage of medical nutrition therapy for Medicare Part B beneficiaries to include a greater range of chronic conditions that can cause malnutrition and negative health outcomes.

Medical nutrition therapy (MNT) is nutritional diagnostic, therapy and counseling services provided by a registered dietitian for disease prevention, management and treatment. MNT is an evidence-based, cost-effective component of treatment that helps mitigate prevalent and costly chronic conditions, including those that are contributing to poor COVID-19 outcomes. Equal access to MNT Medicare beneficiaries is critically important for improved patient outcomes. Currently the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services does not have the authority to expand MNT under Medicare, necessitating the passage of the MNT Act.

Today, Medicare covers MNT only for individuals with diagnosed diabetes mellitus or kidney disease and post-kidney transplant and requires a physician referral. The bill amends the Social Security Act to:

* Provide Medicare Part B coverage for outpatient MNT for individuals with other diseases and conditions; including malnutrition, pre-diabetes, obesity, eating disorders, cancer, HIV/AIDS, hypertension, dyslipidemia, gastrointestinal diseases, cardiovascular disease and other conditions causing unintended weight loss;
* Authorize the Secretary of Health to include other diseases based on medical necessity; and
* Allow nurse practitioners, physician assistants, clinical nurse specialists, and psychologists to refer patients for MNT.

[Briefly explain your own concerns and story about MNT and the MNT Act if applicable]

In today’s environment, with the combining influences of systemic inequalities, food insecurity, reduced access to care, and the impact of COVID-19, the need to provide equitable access to medical nutrition therapy is ever important. MNT is an effective solution and is a critically important and cost-effective component of treatment of many chronic conditions.

Please sign on and show your support for equitable access to nutrition care in the United States by co-sponsoring the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act!

Thank you for your time, consideration and support.

Sincerely,

[sign name and include phone number and email address]