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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4209**

September 20, 2019

Governor Bill Lee  
State Capitol, 1st Floor  
600 Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Governor Lee,

It is with great interest and concern that I have reviewed Tennessee's application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to receive a waiver for a block grant program. As the Congressman for the Ninth District and a life-long advocate for accessible and affordable health care, I look forward to discussing these concerns at a public hearing.

However, there is no public hearing scheduled in Shelby County. As you know, the public hearing in west Tennessee will be held in Madison County, which is a two hour drive from Memphis. As of August 2019, Madison County had 24,528 TennCare beneficiaries, while Shelby County had 250,292.

This decision is based only on geography and not population. This perspective results in the largest number of Tennesseans being disadvantaged. I urge you to schedule a fourth hearing so that the concerns of Shelby County residents are heard. I am sure you would agree that their thoughts, ideas and questions are no less important than residents of rural counties.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need further information to schedule a public event in the City of Good Abode.

As always, I remain,  
Most sincerely



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

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