



January 14, 2025

The Honorable Anne Milgram
Administrator
Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
600 Army Navy Drive, 12th Floor
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Administrator Milgram,

On behalf of ATA Action, the American Telemedicine Association's affiliated trade association focused on advocacy that advances policy to ensure all individuals have permanent access to telehealth services across the care continuum, thank you for consistent work on the remote prescribing of controlled substances over the past few years and extending the current flexibilities through the end of calendar year 2025.

Over the past few years, you and your team have been working diligently to try and formalize these flexibilities through the creation of the telemedicine special registration proposed rule to establish a permanent framework for the remote prescribing of controlled substances. Unfortunately, the first version of the proposed rule did not adequately address the concerns of key stakeholders and would have created outrageous barriers to care, leading to considerable disappointment across the healthcare and telehealth communities. Therefore, the DEA went back to the drawing board and in response, took the appropriate step of holding public listening sessions and seeking input from a wide range of stakeholders, including healthcare providers, telehealth advocates, and patients. ATA Action was invited to participate and speak at the public listening sessions where we outlined our thoughtful recommendations for a comprehensive Special Registration process for the remote prescribing of controlled substances. ([See ATA Action's recommendations here](#))

We urge you to take immediate steps to establish a workgroup that includes input from outside stakeholders—such as ATA Action and other industry representatives—to assist in the creation of this framework. This workgroup would be instrumental in providing the necessary data and feedback to ensure that the policies implemented protect both patients and providers while enhancing access to critical and lifesaving prescriptions.

We believe that under your leadership, the DEA has an opportunity to make lasting improvements in the accessibility of healthcare through telehealth while also maintaining the highest standards for patient safety. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your team on this important issue to ensure that we get it right.



Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. ATA Action is eager to assist in any way we can and are confident that, together, we can create a sustainable solution that benefits both patients and healthcare providers.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Zebley".

Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action