**Your Name**

**Facility/Corporation Name**

**Address 1**

**Address 2**

**City, KY Zip**

**Date**

**Dear Ms. Orme:**

**I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(include title if appropriate) with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Kentucky and we are associated with \_\_\_\_\_ skilled nursing facilities throughout the Commonwealth.**

**Please accept this [letter/e-mail] as written comments regarding the proposed changes to 900 KAR 5:020.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_strongly opposes the amendment to 900 KAR 5:020.  There is no need for additional short-term rehabilitation services in Kentucky.  Currently, Kentucky licensed nursing facilities and nursing homes are providing high quality short-term rehabilitation services in their communities.**

**The addition of new short-term rehabilitation beds will siphon off Medicare residents from existing nursing facilities and nursing homes exacerbating the clinical staffing crisis that many providers are experiencing in Kentucky.**

**Kentucky nursing facilities have been providing short-term, post-acute care for many years.  These post-acute services occur immediately after discharge from a hospital and are aimed at returning patients to their homes within 30 days, and often sooner.**

**Overall usage of nursing facilities is declining.  Length of stay has declined.  The average occupancy in the Commonwealth has declined to 87% statewide. Space is available in existing nursing facility beds to accommodate the need for short-term post-acute rehabilitation lasting 21-days or less.**

**For our nursing facilities to remain viable, existing CON regulations must remain in force and efforts to circumvent long-established rules must be denied.**

**Once again, we strongly oppose the amendment to 900 KAR 5:020.**

**Thank you for your consideration,**

**Sincerely,**

**[Name}**