

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Leader  
US Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Leader  
US Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Leader  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

We write to urge passage of the *Hospital Inpatient Services Modernization Act*, bipartisan legislation introduced by Senators Carper and Scott and Representatives Blumenauer and Wenstrup, that would extend the current acute hospital care at home waiver flexibilities for two years from the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). This legislation will maintain access to these services and provide necessary stability and predictability for patients, caregivers, and physicians.

Today, over 200 hospitals in 34 states are approved for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Acute Hospital Care at Home (AHCAH) waiver program. The program is a critically important tool that has allowed hospitals and health systems to provide safe, high quality care in the comfort of the patient's home. Acute hospital care at home waiver programs are providing high quality care to Medicare patients in their homes. Studies of hospital at home programs regularly show significant reductions in 30-day readmissions, post-discharge emergency department visits and skilled nursing facility utilization. Patients also gain more mobility and improved sleep, and patient satisfaction is also consistently higher for patients receiving acute care in their homes.

However, the CMS waiver flexibilities that enable this model of patient-centered care delivery are tied to the duration of the COVID-19 PHE. Therefore, to ensure continuity of care, patients and their health care providers need greater certainty and predictability for this important care delivery option. The Hospital Inpatient Services Modernization Act provides necessary stability by extending the existing waiver program for two years following the termination of the PHE. It will also require that CMS issue regulations establishing health and safety requirements for AHCAH Programs within a year of enactment.

We strongly support immediate passage of this bill that will both sustain the existing momentum and investment in the program, as well as allow for additional experience and data collection that can inform the potential of a more permanent program for these services in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Sincerely,

Acadian Ambulance Service Inc.  
Advanced Care at Home Coalition  
Adventist Health  
Advocate Aurora Health  
Alliance of Community Health Plans

Allina Health  
America's Physician Groups  
American Academy of Home Care Medicine  
American Medical Association  
Amwell  
AMGA  
Ascension  
Atrium Health  
AU Medical Center  
Avera McKennan Healthcare Center  
Beacon Health System  
Bellin Health  
Biofourmis, Inc.  
BrightStar Care  
Carbon Health  
Cardinal Health  
Care New England/Kent Hospital  
Castell and Intermountain Healthcare  
CentraCare Health  
ChristianaCare  
CIC Health  
CommonSpirit Health  
Compassus  
Contessa  
Corstrata  
Covenant Health  
Current Health, A Best Buy Health Company  
DispatchHealth  
Duke Health  
Elara Caring  
Essentia Health  
Florida Hospital Association  
Geisinger Medical Center  
Gundersen Health System  
Hackensack Meridian Health  
Healing Hands Healthcare, LLC  
Health First  
Health Recovery Solutions  
Highmark Health  
Holy Name  
Houston Methodist  
Indiana University Health  
INTEGRIS Health  
Johns Hopkins Health System  
Kaiser Permanente  
Little Black Bag House Calls  
Marshfield Clinic Health System  
Mass General Brigham

Mayo Clinic  
Medical City Healthcare  
Medical Group Management Association  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Medically Home  
Medsign International Corp.  
MemorialCare Health System  
Michigan Medicine/University of Michigan  
Mount Sinai Health System  
Moving Health Home  
MultiCare  
Northwest Momentum Health Partners  
Novant Health  
Ochsner Health  
Omniceil  
Origin Healthcare  
OSF HealthCare  
Parkland Health  
Penn State Health  
PharmAdva  
Premier, Inc.  
Prisma Health  
ProMedica  
Providence  
PSW  
Redeemer Health  
Resilient Healthcare  
Riverside Health System  
Sentara Healthcare  
Sharp HealthCare  
Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Group  
South County Health  
St. Bernards Healthcare  
St. Elizabeth Healthcare  
St. Peter's Health Partners  
Summa Health  
SUNY Upstate University Hospital  
Sweetheart Healthcare, LLC  
Tampa General Hospital  
Texas Health Resources  
The Guthrie Clinic  
The MetroHealth System  
Trinity Health  
UAB Medicine  
UCI Health  
UMass Memorial Health  
UNC Health & UNC School of Medicine  
UnityPoint Health

University Hospitals  
University of California San Francisco  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
UW Health  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
VCU Health  
VeeOne Health  
WakeMed  
Wise Health System  
XSOLIS  
Yale New Haven Health