

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 24, 2020

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

As members of the GOP Doctors Caucus, we commend your leadership in highlighting the serious issue of surprise medical billing, and share your interest in ensuring patients are protected from what are essentially billing disputes between providers and insurance companies.

While there are several good-faith proposals circulating in Congress right now, all of the approaches now include independent dispute resolution to help resolve these billing disputes. Per our recent conversation with your staff, we understand the administration is considering a ban on surprise billing without any additional reforms. We want to reiterate our strong concern with such an approach.

This change would have a disproportionately harmful impact on providers trying to negotiate fair rates with insurers for their services. Providers must have some mechanism to dispute unfairly low payments. Many providers are already struggling to keep their doors open during the coronavirus pandemic because of revenue loss, and we believe taking this approach could exacerbate their existing financial woes, reduce the number of providers available for emergency care, and ultimately threaten patients' access to care.

Surprise billing affects patients in every walk of life, and we believe we can enact this important reform to protect patients. We stand ready to assist you in this effort and will do our part in Congress to get a solution across the finish line that is equitable and ensures no patient ever bears the burden of these costly, unexpected medical bills again.

Sincerely,



David P. Roe, M.D.
Member of Congress



Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress



Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress



Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress



Roger Marshall, M.D.
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.
Member of Congress



Scott DesJarlais, M.D.
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Jeff Van Drew, D.M.D.
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Ralph Abraham, M.D.
Member of Congress



John Joyce, M.D.
Member of Congress



Mark E. Green, M.D.
Member of Congress