## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

February 10, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

As Congress considers the issue of surprise medical billing, we urge you to reject proposals that offer government-dictated price controls as a solution to the problem. Specifically, surprise medical billing proposals that give the federal government the power to set rates between two private entities – insurers and health care providers – could have a devastating impact on our constituents. We have heard from countless patients and organizations about the potential harmful impacts of such rate-setting proposals, and urge you to reject them, particularly in advance of the May 22, 2020 deadline to address expiring health provisions.

To be clear, we believe that patients should be protected from surprise medical bills, which can place a heavy financial burden on individuals that received care outside of their insurance network. In pursuing such protections, there exist several proposals that hold patients harmless, increase transparency, and resolve disputes that arise from surprise bills.

That said, we oppose price controls as a solution to the issue of surprise medical billing. By design, placing such price controls on purely private transactions would reduce access to care, increase the power of the federal government, and result in negative unintended consequences.

Congress should act on surprise medical billing, but it should avoid top-down price controls that would simply be trading one problem for another.

Sincerely,

Andy Harris, M.D.

Member of Congress

Steve Chabot

Member of Congress

**Austin Scott** 

Member of Congress

Robert J. Wittman Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn Member of Congress

Jim Banks

Member of Congress

Ralph Abraham, M.D. Member of Congress

Denver Riggleman Member of Congress W. Gregory Steube Member of Congress

Andy Biggs

Member of Congress

Roger 2. Marshall

Roger Marshall, M.D. Member of Congress

**Bob Gibbs** 

Member of Congress

Scott DesJarlais, M.D.

Member of Congress

Steve King

Member of Congress

Ted S. Yoho, DVM Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Russ Fulcher Member of Congress

Michael Guest Member of Congress

Barry Loudermilk Member of Congress

Randy K. Weber Member of Congress

Mike Johnson Member of Congress

Jim Hagedorn Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S.

Member of Congress

Lance Gooden

Member of Congress

Alex X. Mooney
Member of Congress

Tedd Budd Member of Congress

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

Mark Meadows
Member of Congress

Ralph Norman Member of Congress

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

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

Ken Buck
Member of Congress

Greg Pence Member of Congress

Bill Huizenga Member of Congress

Van Taylor Member of Congress Jody Flin

Jody Hice

Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Republican Leader