

December 7, 2023

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries:

PatientRightsAdvocate.org is pleased to support the Lower Costs More Transparency Act, H.R. 5378, as a first step toward protecting American consumers from overcharges and lowering the costs of healthcare and coverage. We applaud your efforts and leadership to not only codify the price transparency rules, but also significantly strengthen penalties and enforcement, and provide all consumers with real prices, not estimates.

Real, upfront prices are critical to make healthcare a functional, competitive marketplace. Empowered with upfront prices, healthcare consumers – patients, employer and union purchasers, and workers – can identify wide price variation, choose lower-priced, affordable care, realize substantial savings, and protect themselves from rampant overcharges, billing errors, medical debt, and fraud. The savings can be used to increase wages, budgets, earnings, and will help alleviate the financial strain many Americans face every day.

We appreciate Congress's continued bipartisan commitment to implementing systemwide healthcare price transparency. We are encouraged by bipartisan co-sponsors and leadership taking action to ensure there are no rollbacks of healthcare consumers' rights under existing rules put in place by both the Biden and Trump Administrations to increase transparency and lower healthcare costs.

Broad access to lower-cost care and coverage will lead to healthier outcomes, allowing Americans to live better quality and longer lives at a far better individual and societal cost. No longer will the United States pay more than twice other developed countries for its healthcare; price transparency is the catalyst to put the trend in reverse and allow U.S. businesses and economy to compete on equal footing on a global scale. Detailed disclosure of all upfront prices and claims across facilities, plans, and providers will preserve the rights that Americans have today to clearly compare prices, bills, and receipts, prevent overcharges, and lower their costs.

We applaud the members who are standing up to special interests in this fight on behalf of the American people. The Lower Costs, More Transparency Act is the first step to putting patients first and restoring trust in our healthcare system. We will continue to work with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to ensure the current pricing rules are codified, strengthened, and robustly enforced.

Sincerely,



Cynthia A. Fisher
Founder and Chairman
PatientRightsAdvocate.org