

June 3, 2025

Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
United States Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: On Behalf of Over 4 Million Providers - Welcome and Meeting Request

Dear Secretary Kennedy,

We write on behalf of the undersigned organizations representing the Patient Access to Responsible Care Alliance (PARCA) to congratulate you on your confirmation as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). As member organizations of PARCA, we represent over four million non-MD/DO Medicare recognized health and mental health providers who provide high-quality, evidence-based care to millions of Americans, especially to those living in rural and underserved areas. We respectfully request an opportunity to meet with you to discuss the experiences of our members in providing patient centered care, and ways to improve efficiency in the healthcare system to put patients and providers first.

We look forward to continuing to work with HHS on addressing the ongoing healthcare challenges and removing federal barriers which prevent providers from meeting the needs of patients and restrict patients' ability to receive care from the provider of their choice. Despite the increasing amount of care our members provide for patients in every community across the nation, and the critical role they play in addressing the chronic disease crisis in America, federal policy barriers restrict their ability to provide timely care. Our members are critical to advancing healthcare access, improving quality of care, and providing cost-effective healthcare delivery, particularly in rural and underserved communities. Yet outdated federal policies prevent providers from serving to the full extent of their license, restrict patient choice and deepen health care access gaps.

In light of the challenges facing healthcare, it is critical to update federal policies to reflect the modern delivery of healthcare. Importantly, this was supported during President Trump's first Administration. We strongly support Section 5 of Executive Order 13890 on *Protecting and Improving Medicare for Our Nation's Seniors*, which called for removing burdensome requirements in the Medicare program that are "more stringent than applicable Federal or State laws require and that limit professionals from practicing at the top of their profession".¹ Additionally, the *Reforming America's Healthcare System Through Choice and Competition* report from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Treasury, and the Department of Labor² called for policies to remove barriers to care for providers. These changes are critical to ensuring efficiency, and a patient's ability to receive care from their chosen health care provider.

¹ [Executive Order on Protecting and Improving Medicare for Our Nation's Seniors – The White House](#)

² [Reforming America's Healthcare System Through Choice and Competition](#)



Further, we also urge you to coordinate with the Department of Labor and the U.S. Treasury to expedite rulemaking on provider nondiscrimination under Section 2706 of the Public Health Service Act. As you may know, the *Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021* was signed into law by President Trump in December 2020. This legislation included the *No Surprises Act* which requires these three agencies to promulgate rules prohibiting anticompetitive practices by commercial insurers against health care providers by January 1, 2022. The previous administration did not meet this statutory deadline and did not propose any rules to protect patients and providers from these anticompetitive practices. PARCA members are the providers of choice for patients across the country and continuing to permit insurers to exclude providers from networks or to reimburse them less solely based on their licensure, limits patient choice and access to care.

We look forward to working with you and your team on proactive changes which recognize the importance of all health care providers and remove unnecessary federal barriers to care. If we can be of any assistance to you or your staff, or to schedule a meeting with our members, please do not hesitate to contact any of the organizations individually, or Jessica Talbert, Chair of PARCA at jtalbert@aanp.org.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Audiology
American Academy of Physician Associates
American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
American Chiropractic Association
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nurses Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Physical Therapy Association
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Social Workers
National League of Nursing