

August 25, 2023

## To Whom It May Concern:

On August 22, 2023, the House Budget Committee established the Health Care Task Force to examine key drivers of our nation's health care spending and solutions to improve health outcomes while bending down the debt curve. The Task Force is chaired by Rep. Michael Burgess, M.D. (TX-26) alongside Task Force members Rep. Drew Ferguson (GA-03), Rep. Buddy Carter (GA-01), Rep. Lloyd Smucker (PA-11), Rep. Blake Moore (UT-01), Rep. Rudy Yakym (IN-02), and ex-officio member Chairman Jodey Arrington (TX-19).

The Task Force will lead the Committee's work examining key drivers of health care costs to the federal budget and proposals to improve outcomes while reducing health care spending. The Task Force will prioritize work to modernize and personalize the health care system, support innovation, and increase patient access to quality and affordable care. The Task Force will also examine the Congressional Budget Office (CBO)'s modeling and projection capabilities to ensure policymakers are equipped with the best available data when evaluating potential impacts of health policies to Americans and the federal budget.

The Task Force will convene members of the Committee as well as independent experts and stakeholders from across the health care sector to examine challenges facing our health care system and the root causes of out-of-control spending. As part of this endeavor, the Task Force is soliciting feedback from stakeholders and experts on solutions to improve outcomes, reduce federal health care spending in the budget, as well as opportunities to build upon CBO's ability to project the impact of health care policies.

## **Exploring Solutions**

We are specifically interested in seeking feedback on actions Congress could take to improve outcomes while lowering health care spending. Responses could address (but are not limited to):

- 1) Regulatory, statutory, or implementation barriers that could be addressed to reduce health care spending;
- 2) Efforts to promote and incorporate innovation into programs like Medicare to reduce health care spending and improve patient outcomes;
- 3) Comments on CBO's modeling capabilities on health care policies, including limitations or improvements to such analyses and processes;

- 4) Examples of evidence-based, cost-effective preventive health measures or interventions that can reduce long term health costs; and,
- 5) Recommendations to reduce improper payments in federal health care programs.

We appreciate your time and attention to this important matter. Please direct responses to <a href="mail.house.gov">hbcr.health@mail.house.gov</a> no later than October 15, 2023.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Burgess, M.D.

Chair

Health Care Task Force House Budget Committee

Lloyd Smucker Member of Congress

Blake D. Moore Member of Congress

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A. Drew Ferguson IV, D.M.D

Sal I Bully Carte

Member of Congress

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter Member of Congress

Rudy Yakym III Member of Congress