

February 10, 2020

United States House of Representatives  
Ways and Means Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Neal, Ranking Member Brady, Members of the Committee:

On behalf of HR Policy Association, I urge you to oppose the “Consumer Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills Act of 2020,” which would force employers into binding arbitration that will require them to pay 600% to 900% of Medicare reimbursement rates instead of free market negotiated rates. Instead of solving the problem by bending the cost curve in a more sustainable direction, this legislation will create an arbitration process that increases uncertainty making it more difficult to provide affordable health care benefits to employees and their dependents.

The HR Policy Association is the leading organization representing chief human resource officers of over 395 of the largest employers in the United States. Collectively, their companies provide health care coverage to over 20 million employees and dependents in the United States and spend more than \$120 billion annually on health care benefits and related taxes.

We urge Congress to reject the “Consumer Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills Act of 2020” because it has no limits on the potential to overuse and misuse arbitration and there are no real limits on arbitration settlement awards. Instead, Congress should enact the more sensible and effective solutions included the “Lower Health Care Costs Act” (S. 1895), the “No Surprises Act” (H.R. 3630), and the “Ban Surprise Billing Act” (H.R. 5800).

We look forward to working with you to ensure the final measure that passes Congress enables companies to continue to provide high-quality health care benefits to over 178 million Americans.

Sincerely,



D. Mark Wilson  
President, American Health Policy Institute  
Vice President, Health & Employment Policy,  
HR Policy Association