

June 6, 2023

The Honorable Jason Smith  
Chair, House Ways & Means Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member, House Ways & Means Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Smith and Ranking Member Neal:

Thank you for your ongoing leadership on expanding access to virtual care and for your commitment to considering a pathway for permanent policy around telehealth beyond the COVID-19 public health emergency. We appreciate that the Committee is bringing the *Telehealth Expansion Act of 2023 (H.R. 1843/S. 1001)* forward as part of these conversations and write to urge you to advance this legislation to the full House of Representatives for consideration.

In December 2022, Congress took action to ensure certain telehealth flexibilities enacted at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic were extended for two years through the end of December 2024. We applaud the Committee for ensuring this included a two-year extension of the CARES Act authority that allowed employers and health plans to provide coverage for telehealth services on a pre-deductible basis for the more than 32 million Americans with a high-deductible health plan coupled with a Health Savings Account (HDHP-HSA) through December 31, 2024.

The *Telehealth Expansion Act of 2023* is a bipartisan, bicameral bill that would ensure this critical telehealth flexibility continues on a permanent basis beyond the 2024 extension. This commonsense policy has helped ensure families could access vital telehealth services – including virtual primary care and behavioral health services – prior to having to meet their deductible. In fact, according to a [survey](#) by the Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI), about 96 percent of employers adopted pre-deductible coverage for telehealth services as a result of this pandemic-era provision.

The ability to offer pre-deductible telehealth services for employees is a meaningful expansion of health care access and is popular among consumers. Notably, according to unpublished estimates from EBRI, over 50 percent of individuals with an HSA live in zip codes where the median income is below \$75,000 annually. Over the past three years, this flexibility also enabled important expansions of access to care for individuals who may otherwise have neglected essential care due to high out-of-pocket costs. Further, a [survey](#) by NORC and AHIP found that “73 percent of commercial telehealth users said Congress should make permanent the provisions that allowed for coverage of telehealth services before paying their full deductible.”

It is imperative that Congress consider making this policy permanent to ensure that the millions of Americans with employer-sponsored coverage do not lose access to this pre-deductible coverage of telehealth services. The undersigned organizations strongly encourage you to advance the *Telehealth Expansion Act of 2023* to ensure individuals with HDHP-HSAs can continue to access virtual care services on a pre-deductible, permanent basis beyond 2024.

Sincerely,

Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators (AONN)  
AlediumHR

Allergy & Asthma Network  
Alliance for Connected Care  
Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy  
Alliance to Fight for Health Care  
ALS Association  
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
American Academy of PAs  
American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation  
American Association for Respiratory Care  
American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American Bankers Association Health Savings Account Council  
American Benefits Council  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy  
American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Portable Diagnostics Association  
American Telemedicine Association  
American Urological Association  
Americans for Prosperity  
America's Health Insurance Plans  
AMGA  
Amwell  
Array Behavioral Care  
Assisted Recovery Centers of America  
ATA Action  
AXYS, the Association for X and Y Variations  
Bicycle Health  
Billings Clinic  
Business Group on Health  
Business Roundtable  
California Health Care Coalition  
Cancer Support Community  
Cancer Support Community Arizona  
Cancer Support Community Delaware  
Cancer Support Community Indiana  
CancerCare  
Care Compass Network  
Caregility  
CareSpan USA, Inc.  
Centerstone  
Church Alliance  
CirrusMD Inc.  
Coalition for Headache and Migraine Patients  
Colorado Hospital Association Broadband Services  
Columbia University Irving Medical Center  
CommonSpirit Health  
Compassion & Choices

Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Connected Health Initiative  
Connected Home Living  
Consumer Choice Center  
Consumer Technology Association  
Convenient Care Association  
Corporate Health Care Coalition  
Council for Affordable Health Coverage  
Cox Enterprises, Inc.  
Cromford Health  
Curai, Inc.  
Cure CMD  
Curve Health  
CVS Health  
Danielle Byron Henry Migraine Foundation  
Dayamed  
Deerbrook Counseling  
Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance  
Dermatologist On Call  
Diabetes & Endocrinology Consultants of PA, LLC  
Digital Medicine Society (DiMe)  
Directions in Independent Living  
Dogtown Media LLC  
e-Facilis LLC  
Employers Council on Flexible Compensation (ECFC)  
Employers' Advanced Cooperative on Healthcare  
Encounter Telehealth  
ExamMed  
Executives for Health Innovation  
EZaccessMD  
Fight Colorectal Cancer  
FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered  
Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA)  
GenieMD, Inc  
Gilda's Club Kansas City  
Gilda's Club Quad Cities  
Gilda's Club South Florida  
Global Liver Institute  
GO2 for Lung Cancer  
Go2Care  
HCU Network America  
Health Action Council  
Health Innovation Alliance  
HealthCare 21  
Healthcare Information & Management Systems Society (HIMSS)  
Healthcare Leadership Council  
HealthEquity, Inc.  
Heartbeat Health

Hinge Health  
HR Policy Association  
HSA Coalition  
Immune Deficiency Foundation  
IMPOWER  
Included Health (Doctor On Demand + Grand Rounds)  
Intel Corporation  
International OCD Foundation  
IU Health  
KJ Solutions  
Klinica Consulting Group  
Kohnling Inc.  
Kroger Health  
Lānaʻi Community Health Center  
LifePoint Health  
Lifespan  
Lockton Companies  
Maine Primary Care Association  
MedWand Solutions Inc.  
Melanoma Research Foundation  
Mend VIP, Inc.  
Mercer  
Michigan Neurological Association  
Midwest Business Group on Health  
Miles for Migraine  
MN HIMSS  
Modern Ritual Health PC  
Monebo Technologies, Inc.  
Montana Academy of Family Physicians  
National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions  
National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals (NABIP)  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National League for Nursing  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
National Taxpayers Union  
New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.  
NIM Longevity  
Noma Therapy  
Noom  
OCHIN  
Omada Health, Inc.  
Onduo LLC  
One Medical  
Origin Healthcare  
Oscar Health, Inc.  
Oshi Health  
Pandemic Patients  
Partnership for Employer-Sponsored Coverage

Partnership to Advance Virtual Care (PAVC)  
PAs in Virtual Medicine and Telemedicine  
Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation  
Primary Care Development Corporation  
Providence  
Psychotherapy Action Network  
QueerDoc  
QuickVisit Urgent Care  
Qure4u Health  
REDC Consortium  
RxHomeTest  
Scripps Health  
SHRM  
Silicon Valley Employers Forum  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council  
Society of Interventional Radiology  
South Carolina My Care Team  
St. Louis Area Business Health Coalition  
Susan G. Komen  
Talkspace  
Teladoc Health  
Telehealth Outreach for Unified Community Health-Telehealth Systems Consultants  
The AIDS Institute  
The Cheesecake Factory  
The Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers  
The ERISA Industry Committee  
The Libre Initiative  
Therapy Zone Incorporated  
TheraTec, Inc  
Traverse Therapeutics  
Turner Syndrome Society of the United States  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
U.S. Pain Foundation  
United Leukodystrophy Foundation  
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Health System  
URAC  
Verato  
Virta Health  
Visual Telecommunication Network, LLC d/b/a ViTel Net  
Walmart  
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