



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

WASHINGTON, D.C. (February 11, 2020) – Today, 23 patient and consumer organizations representing millions of people facing serious, acute, chronic health conditions, issued the following statement in response to the **House Committee on Education and Labor’s** markup of legislation intended to prevent patients from facing surprise medical bills:

“The [Ban Surprise Billing Act](#) offers robust protections for all patients in all health settings. Our organizations applaud the Education and Labor Committee markup of legislation that would protect patients from surprise medical bills. Importantly, these protections extend to patients covered by employer-sponsored plans, and they apply to patients carried by emergency air transportation.

Surprise billing affects millions of patients each year and is a growing concern for our organizations and the patients we serve. Our organizations appreciate the committee’s commitment to advancing this important legislation. Patients and consumers need Congress to act to protect them from the potential for massive medical debt caused by surprise medical bills. We urge Congress to work quickly to enact bipartisan legislation that will address this growing problem and lower patients’ health care costs.

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ALS Association
 American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
 American Heart Association
 American Kidney Fund
 American Liver Foundation
 American Lung Association
 Chron’s & Colitis Foundation
 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
 Epilepsy Foundation
 Hemophilia Federation of America

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Mended Hearts
Mended Little Hearts
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Health Council
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Psoriasis Foundation
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease

MEDIA CONTACT

Ryan Holeywell
Senior Director, Advocacy Communications
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
ryan.holeywell@lls.org