

| better solutions | for healthcare

December 8, 2023

The Honorable Michael Johnson
Speaker of the House of Representatives
United States Capitol

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
United States Capitol

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries,

Better Solutions for Healthcare, a national coalition representing a broad range of employers and consumers, strongly supports provisions of the FAIR Act included in the bipartisan Lower Costs, More Transparency Act. Better Solutions has been working to advance legislation to harmonize billing practices in off-campus hospital outpatient facilities, end hospital systems' "dishonest billing" practices, and shine more light on hospital prices. The Coalition supports these sections of the legislation likely to be voted on by the full House of Representatives next week.

We commend the work of the three House committees and for their pragmatic efforts to produce a joint proposal to lower costs and increase transparency in the health care system. This bill includes policy to increase price transparency from hospitals, promote honest billing, and address the practice of hospitals charging enormous mark-ups and facility fees based on the site of care.

Better Solutions is a coalition of leading business and healthcare organizations, including national employer groups, American Benefits Council, National Alliance for Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions, and the Public Sector HealthCare Roundtable, as well as hundreds of local and state business leaders. Our coalition's mission is to educate the public about the role corporate hospital systems play in driving up the cost of healthcare and ways to lower the prices Americans pay for care.

Corporate hospital systems have been engaged in dishonest billing practices for too long, and patients and employers have been paying the price. It is clear there is now bipartisan consensus that we must put an end to these alarming price markups. The high cost of hospital care is a threat to families and taxpayers alike, and we commend these lawmakers for advancing meaningful reform to help lower the cost of healthcare in America.

We urge the House of Representatives to advance policies to make the health care system better for patients, employers, and taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Better Solutions for Healthcare