

February 3, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senate Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, and Speaker Johnson, and House Minority Leader Jeffries:

We are writing to thank you for temporarily extending the Acute Hospital Care at Home (AHCAH) waiver program until March, and strongly urge the inclusion of the full 5-year waiver in the March government funding package. The bill, renamed the Thomas Carper, Tim Scott, Brad Wenstrup, Earl Blumenauer Acute Hospital Care at Home bill, passed out of the Ways and Means Committee, Energy and Commerce Committee, and supported by the Senate Finance Committee, would allow the program to truly take root and further demonstrate advancements in patient care.

The AHCAH program has the rare combination of lower spending, shorter lengths of stay, high patient and caregiver satisfaction, and high quality. It deploys innovative technology and a workforce eager to treat patients where they live.

Americans [want home](#) to be the center of their health. Federal flexibilities such as the AHCAH waiver allowed hospitals to do just that. Another extension of the waiver effectively builds the bridge from demonstration to a more permanent model by giving more certainty to those hospitals currently on the sidelines waiting for regulatory clarity. The evidence is mounting, and another extension will continue the progress and expand participation.

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [report to Congress](#) on the program found that patients in AHCAH had lower mortality rates, lower readmissions on many of the DRGs, lower spending post-discharge, and positive patient and provider experiences with the program.
- A [study](#) published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* found that the mean cost was lower for hospital-at-home care (\$5,081) than for acute hospital care (\$7,480). The study reviewed whether treatment in a hospital-at-home model substituted for treatment in an acute care hospital. Not only was treatment efficacious, 69 percent of patients preferred hospital-at-home care. Patients treated in the hospital-at-home program also had a shorter length of stay.
- A [Health Affairs study](#) found achieved savings of 19 percent over costs for patients receiving care from hospital at home programs. These savings were from a lower average length-of-stay and use of potentially fewer unnecessary services.
- A [study](#) published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* found that a hospital-at-home program was almost \$6,000 lower in costs than for inpatient patients.

Hospital at home is strongly supported by the evidence, the patients, caregivers and providers involved in the program. A long-term extension in March would solidify the evidence base, and allow more seniors to experience care at home. Please reach out to any of the signatories below with any questions.

Sincerely,

AARP
Alliance for Connected Care
Allina Health
AltaMed Health Services
American Telemedicine Association
Association of American Medical Colleges
AsyncHealth Inc
ATA Action
Azodha
Baylor Scott & White Health
Best Buy Health Inc., a Best Buy Company
Beth Israel Lahey Health
Biofourmis, Inc.
BOSS Alliance, LLC
BrightStar Care
BrightStar Care of Eastern Tennessee
Care New England
Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC)
ChristianaCare
CK Franchising Inc
Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC)
Cody Health Ventures LLC
Corstrata
Dioun Health LLC
DispatchHealth
DocGo
Elder Aide Services dba Right at Home
eShift Remote Care Delegation
Geisinger - Hospital at Home
Home Care Association of America
Home Care Association of Florida
Homestyle Direct
Inbound Health
Indiana University Health
Intermountain Health
JW Trust Consulting
Lifepoint Health
Lo Biosciences, Inc.
LT Telehealth/LocumTenens.com

Lyons Advisors, LLC
Macon MedTech Consulting, LLC
Maribel Health
Marshfield Clinic Health System
Mass General Brigham
MedArrive
Medically Home
Michigan Medicine
Mount Sinai Health System
Moving Health Home
National Alliance for Caregiving
Nest Collaborative
Neurobehavioral Systems, Inc.
Nicklaus Children's Health System
Nixon Law Group
Novant Health
Nursing Liaisons Inc.
Optum
Orlando Health, Inc.
Prisma Health
Right at Home
Roper Saint Francis Healthcare
Sanford Health
ShedRx LLC
Shields at Home
Society of Hospital Medicine
St. Bernards Healthcare
Stanford Health Care
Strategic Communications & Planning
SUNY- Upstate University Hospital
Tampa General Hospital
Teladoc Health
Telehealth.org
Texas Health Resources
The Well Home
Trualta
UMass Memorial Health
University of Chicago Medicine
URAC

Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System
WellSky
WellSpan Health
Yale School of Medicine and Yale New Haven Health System