

July 23, 2020

The Honorable Mike Braun
United States Senate
374 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Braun,

On behalf of the undersigned employer groups, thank you for introducing the *Health Care PRICE Transparency Act* (S. 4106), which would codify requirements on insurers and hospitals to make public the real prices for health care. This legislation is critical to empowering both employers and patients to improve health care outcomes and reduce unnecessary costs.

The legislation would also require employers to be transparent about health care prices. **We are ready.**

It's time for the health care industry to join employers in moving to a system that patients can understand and navigate, to create real competition, and to help save money for patients and businesses that are struggling during the COVID pandemic.

Our experience has shown that competition and information are critical to a functioning marketplace for any product, and health care is no different. Many employers directly engage with transparent providers and systems, or use price transparency tools to foster competition, and to inform patients who have increasing skin in the game due to the adoption of consumer-directed health plans. Transparency works.

Employers are major innovators in health care, and transparency will accelerate our ability to improve benefits and coverage, increase affordability for patients, and drive efficiencies and value in the system.

And this legislation is particularly critical during the COVID pandemic, as 17.8 million Americans are unemployed and businesses are trying to keep their doors open. Now more than ever, relief is needed on health care costs. Patients also need certainty about what their costs will be in order to feel safe reengaging with the health care system. Transparent prices will go a long way toward reopening the economy and laying the foundation for a return to care for many patients.

Thank you for sponsoring this legislation to increase transparency and lower health care costs. We look forward to working with you to advance this bill through the legislative process and to the President to be signed into law.

Sincerely,

American Health Policy Institute
The ERISA Industry Committee
HR Policy Association
National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions
Self-Insurance Institute of America, Inc.