



January 26, 2023

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing the Patient Access to Responsible Care Alliance (PARCA), we are writing today to welcome you to the 118th Congress, and to offer our assistance as policy experts representing a variety of healthcare providers. The 118th Congress promises to be critically important for healthcare policy, especially as Congress considers how to transition out of the COVID-19 public health emergency while also continuing to address the impact of the pandemic, such as workforce shortages and the expiration of waivers that have increased patient access to care. We recognize that the last few years have provided many challenges and opportunities to improve our healthcare system and we hope to work with you on these efforts in the 118th Congress.

As member organizations of PARCA, we represent non-MD/DO Medicare recognized health and mental health providers who provide high-quality, evidence-based care to millions of Americans, especially to those living in rural and underserved areas. As the provider of choice for many patients, we understand the importance of ensuring providers are recognized to practice to the full scope of their training, education, certification, and experience to increase patient access to timely care, increase competition, lower costs, and maintain quality and safety. Collectively, PARCA member organizations represent over four million providers throughout the nation, with expertise in a wide variety of areas.

Our coalition works on a variety of bipartisan issues to improve our nation's healthcare system, **including reducing unnecessary barriers to care, increasing access for rural and underserved communities, lowering costs, improving care for our nation's veterans, and ensuring competition and choice in the healthcare market.** PARCA and our member organizations are eager to work with you and your staff on these important healthcare issues. Further, as Congress continues to develop policy and hold hearings on these issues, it is critically important that you take into consideration the perspective of non-MD/DO healthcare leaders and the positive impact our members have on patients across the nation.

PARCA is firmly committed to putting patients first and ensuring that everyone has timely access to high-quality healthcare from the provider of their choice. We welcome you to the 118th Congress and hope to work with you towards these important goals. If we can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact any of the organizations individually, or Matthew Thackston, Chair of PARCA at mthackston@aana.com.

Sincerely,



American Academy of PAs
American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Chiropractic Association
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nurses Association
American Occupational Therapy Association
American Optometric Association
American Pharmacists Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Psychological Association, Inc.
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Social Workers
National League of Nursing