

August 30, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Senate Majority Leader

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Senate Minority Leader

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy House Minority Leader

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

The Part B Access for Seniors and Physicians (ASP) Coalition, representing over 300 patient and provider organizations across the country, is deeply concerned about potential congressional action and inclusion of foreign reference pricing in the reconciliation bill. This would have a devastating impact on the millions of seniors who rely on Medicare Part B for life-saving medication and should not be included in any bill, especially one focused on building back better and improving human infrastructure.

These policy changes would not only impact price controls under Medicare and in the private market, but introducing arbitrary international pricing models would significantly harm providers' ability to deliver patient-centric care and the future introduction of innovative medicines, too.

Another harmful effect of linking our health care policy to other countries that artificially suppress prices through access restrictions and subjective controls is that it ties the hands of providers in the United States by narrowing available treatments due to market forces outside of their control.

If this policy is implemented, patients could face significant new barriers accessing the vital care they have come to rely on through Medicare Part B, including access to new and innovative therapies.

In addition to costing American taxpayers millions, this harmful policy would wreak havoc on the patient-provider relationship among those who rely on the critical Medicare Part B program specifically. This potential legislation is dangerous and should be rejected immediately.

Linked below, please find:

- 1) Coalition Letter Opposing H.R. 3
- 2) Survey of <u>French</u>, <u>German</u>, <u>Australian</u>, and <u>United Kingdom</u> Physicians Opposed to Government Intrusion in Health Care Decisions
- 3) Chart of Opposition to Most Favored Nations Policies
- 4) Coalition Letter Opposing the International Pricing Index

Sincerely,

The Part B Access for Seniors and Physicians (ASP) Coalition



cc: Honorable Xavier Becerra, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services
Honorable Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Honorable Ron Wyden, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
Honorable Mike Crapo, Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee
Honorable Richard Neal, Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means
Honorable Kevin Brady, Ranking Member, House Committee on Ways and Means
Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce