

June 30, 2023



Dear Representative:

I am writing you today to ask you to consider co-sponsoring the [PATIENT Act of 2023 \(HR 3561\)](#). This critical bipartisan legislation was introduced by Energy and Commerce Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers and Ranking Member Frank Pallone and unanimously reported out of the Energy and Commerce Committee. This bill's transparency measures would protect all healthcare consumers, including employers, from being overcharged and would greatly reduce the overall cost of care and coverage to employers and employees.

As the President and CEO of the [Midwest Business Group on Health](#) (MBGH), we are uniquely positioned to appreciate the perspective of employer purchasers and the ways in which the PATIENT Act will positively impact our membership. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit coalition, supporting employers seeking solutions to better manage the high cost of health care and the health and productivity of their covered populations. Founded in 1980, MBGH represents more than 150 organizations who provide benefits to over 4 million lives, with employer members spending more than \$15 billion on health care each year. We seek to advance market solutions and policies that lower the overall cost of healthcare while improving the quality of care.

This important legislation will accelerate the work our members are doing to achieve substantial savings on their healthcare costs.

The PATIENT Act would:

- Remove estimates and other barriers, ensuring patients and employers can access real price information, the true cost of care, and shop for care accordingly, by codifying and improving upon the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) price transparency rules supported by both the Trump and Biden administrations;
- Improve much needed regulatory oversight and increase transparency of pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) business and operating practices, thus lowering costs by helping employers better understand drug price information; and
- Take important steps to improve transparency into ownership structures of health care providers, insurance companies, and PBMs to better understand the state of consolidation in the health care industry and the effects of such consolidation on prices and patient care.

On behalf of the Midwest Business Group on Health, we greatly appreciate your leadership on healthcare and your consideration to co-sponsor the PATIENT Act of 2023 (HR 3561).

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Larson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cheryl Larson
President & CEO
Midwest Business Group on Health
clarson@mbgh.org
Ph: 312-372-9375