

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	Lyons Advisors, LLC
Alliance for Connected Care	Macon MedTech Consulting, LLC
Allina Health	Maribel Health
AltaMed Health Services	Marshfield Clinic Health System
American Telemedicine Association	Mass General Brigham
Association of American Medical Colleges	MedArrive
AsyncHealth Inc	Medically Home
ATA Action	Michigan Medicine
Azodha	Mount Sinai Health System
Baylor Scott & White Health	Moving Health Home
Best Buy Health Inc., a Best Buy Company	National Alliance for Caregiving
Beth Israel Lahey Health	Nest Collaborative
Biofourmis, Inc.	Neurobehavioral Systems, Inc.
BOSS Alliance, LLC	Nicklaus Children's Health System
BrightStar Care	Nixon Law Group
BrightStar Care of Eastern Tennessee	Novant Health
Care New England	Nursing Liaisons Inc.
Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC)	Optum
ChristianaCare	Orlando Health, Inc.
CK Franchising Inc	Prisma Health
Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC)	Right at Home
Cody Health Ventures LLC	Roper Saint Francis Healthcare
Corstrata	Sanford Health
Dioun Health LLC	ShedRx LLC
DispatchHealth	Shields at Home
DocGo	Society of Hospital Medicine
Elder Aide Services dba Right at Home	St. Bernards Healthcare
eShift Remote Care Delegation	Stanford Health Care
Geisinger - Hospital at Home	Strategic Communications & Planning
Home Care Association of America	SUNY- Upstate University Hospital
Home Care Association of Florida	Tampa General Hospital
Homestyle Direct	Teladoc Health
Inbound Health	Telehealth.org
Indiana University Health	Texas Health Resources
Intermountain Health	The Well Home
JW Trust Consulting	Trualta
Lifepoint Health	UMass Memorial Health
Lo Biosciences, Inc.	University of Chicago Medicine
LT Telehealth/LocumTenens.com	URAC

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