May 21, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
U.S. Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
U.S. Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

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

The 28 undersigned organizations, representing millions of patients and consumers across the country who face serious, acute, and chronic health conditions again call on Congress to immediately enact legislation to permanently end all surprise medical billing.

For many months, Congress has had major bipartisan legislation in hand that would comprehensively shield patients and consumers from surprise medical bills however, it has yet to move this critical legislation forward. Meanwhile, the COVID-19 virus continues to impact providers and facilities across the country, forcing patients with chronic and serious conditions who require ongoing treatment to shift providers and/or facilities, or delay treatment altogether – increasing the likelihood that they will
receive a surprise bill. Patients should not be subjected to surprise bills at any time, let alone during a public health crisis.

Now more than ever, patients need protection from surprise medical bills. We urge you and your congressional colleagues to move quickly to include comprehensive protections for patients and consumers in the fourth legislative package to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this critical issue with our organizations further, please contact Katie Berge of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at katie.berge@lls.org.

Sincerely,

ALPHA-1 FOUNDATION
ALS Association
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Heart Association
American Kidney Fund
American Lung Association
Arthritis Foundation
Cancer Support Community
CancerCare
Chronic Disease Coalition
COPD Foundation
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation
Epilepsy Foundation
Family Voices
Hemophilia Federation of America
Immune Deficiency Foundation
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Health Council
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Psoriasis Foundation
Susan G. Komen
The American Liver Foundation
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease