

June 23, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

We, the undersigned organizations representing over 380,000 frontline physicians dedicated to the health and wellbeing of American families in all 50 states, stand together in opposition to any effort to condition payment for health care services on factors other than medical and legal qualifications and standards. Congress should not deny federal funds, including reimbursement for covered services provided to Medicaid beneficiaries, to providers, programs, and health care facilities in cases where a provider is qualified to perform those services.

Attempts, legislative or otherwise, to deny or restrict coverage of care provided by qualified and approved providers jeopardize access to primary and preventive care for millions of Americans who rely on our Nation's already stretched health care safety net.¹ Coverage decisions should be based solely on medical evidence, best practices, and qualifications.

We urge you to prevent politics from interfering in the patient-physician relationship and work with us to improve our health care system for all Americans.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Physicians
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

¹ Efforts to repeal portions of the Affordable Care Act will result in losses in revenue and reductions in services, sites, and staffing for community health centers. Reference: Rosenbaum S, et al. How Could Repealing Key Provisions of the Affordable Care Act Affect Community Health Centers and their Patients? Geiger Gibson/RCHN Community Health Foundation Research Collaborative. Policy Research Brief #46. March 27, 2017. Accessed at: <http://www.rchnfoundation.org/?p=5869>.