

May 25, 2022

Ms. Chiquita Brooks-LaSure Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Department of Health and Human Services P.O. Box 8010 Baltimore, MD 21244-8010

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure,

Our 23 organizations represent millions of patients and consumers who face serious, acute, and chronic health conditions. We have a unique perspective on what individuals and families need to prevent disease, cure illness, and manage chronic health conditions. The diversity of our organizations and the populations we serve enable us to draw upon a wealth of knowledge and expertise that is an invaluable resource in this discussion. We write to request a meeting with Administrator Brooks-LaSure regarding regulations limiting the sale and availability of short-term, limited-duration ("STLD") health insurance.

In January of this year, 29 of our organizations sent the Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS), Labor, and Treasury a letter urging you to take swift action to limit the availability of these dangerous products and provided recommendations for how the Departments could better protect patients. Non-compliant insurance offerings, including – but not limited to -- STLDI, have disproportionately harmed patients with pre-existing conditions and continue to jeopardize the health and wellbeing of both people and the integrity of our coverage system. In the coming months, it will be critical that HHS and CMS take steps to issue meaningful regulations that go beyond those issued in 2016. In addition to restoring the 3-month duration limit, the Administration should move to limit renewability and stacking, ban sales during Open Enrollment, limit internet and phone sales, establish a prohibition on plan rescissions, and improve disclosures.

As you know, STLD insurance is not required to adhere to important standards, including prohibitions on discrimination against people with pre-existing conditions, coverage for the 10 essential health benefit (EHB) categories, limitation on age rating of premiums, annual out of pocket maximums, prohibitions on gender rating, annual benefit limits, and lifetime coverage limits, and many other critical patient and consumer protections. These standards are critical to the care needed by the people our organizations represent.

Our organizations eagerly await formal rulemaking on STLD plans and are available to assist you in efforts to protect patients from these and other non-ACA-compliant plans. We welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss these issues with you further. To arrange a meeting, please contact Katie Berge, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Director of Federal Government Affairs at Katie.Berge@lls.org. We thank you for your attention to this important matter and look forward to working with you on behalf of patients.

Sincerely,

American Cancer Society Cancer Action

Network

American Heart Association American Kidney Fund American Lung Association

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Epilepsy Foundation

Hemophilia Federation of America Lupus Foundation of America National Alliance on Mental Illness

National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship

National Eczema Association National Health Council

National Hemophilia Foundation National Kidney Foundation

National MS Society

National Organization for Rare Disorders National Patient Advocate Foundation

National Psoriasis Foundation

Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Susan G. Komen
The AIDS Institute

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Cc: The Honorable Xavier Becerra, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services