799 9th St NW Suite 210 Washington, D.C., 20001 T (202) 354 - 2600 vizientinc.com



June 14, 2023

The Honorable Mark Warner U.S. Senate 703 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Tim Scott U.S. Senate 104 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Warner and Scott,

I am writing to offer Vizient's support for the Preserving Patient Access to Home Infusion Act. Your bipartisan legislation would offer important clarifications to the Medicare home infusion benefit and provide for greater patient access to safe infusion therapies in their own homes.

Vizient is the nation's largest healthcare performance improvement company. Vizient provides solutions and services that improve the delivery of high-value care by aligning cost, quality, and market performance for more than 60% of the nation's acute care providers, which includes 97% of the nation's academic medical centers and more than 25% of ambulatory providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics, and advisory services, as well as a contract portfolio that represents more than \$130 billion in annual purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs. Headquartered in Irving, Texas, Vizient has offices throughout the United States.

As the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has implemented the new Medicare home infusion benefit, the agency has narrowly interpreted the law and adopted an approach that has resulted in limited access to home infusion therapy for patients. Specifically, CMS has determined that under the Medicare home infusion benefit, it will only reimburse a home infusion supplier for services if a healthcare provider (e.g., nurse) is physically present in the patient's home and an infusion drug is administered on the same day. This approach is impractical for both providers and patients and has led to difficulty for many in accessing this important benefit.

Your bill would include pharmacy services in the definition of the home infusion therapy benefit and clarify that Medicare reimbursement may be provided for any day on which a drug was administered, whether or not a qualified home infusion supplier is physically present in the home, and also establish reimbursement rates for drug administration on days when a home infusion supplier is not physically present in the home. The bill would also provide for more flexibility by allowing Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners to establish and review home infusion plans of care.

We believe your legislation will help to support more widespread adoption of this treatment option for patients and are pleased to offer our endorsement. Thank you for your ongoing leadership on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com</u> or 202-354-2607 if you have any questions about Vizient or if there is any way we can be of assistance in advancing your important legislation.

Sincerely,

Shedhoma Kula

Shoshana Krilow Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations

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June 14, 2023

The Honorable Vern Buchanan U.S. House of Representatives 2110 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Dianna Harshbarger U.S. House of Representatives 167 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Terri Sewell U.S. House of Representatives 1035 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Debbie Dingell U.S. House of Representatives 102 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Buchanan, Harshbarger, Dingell and Sewell,

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Shodhoma Unla

Shoshana Krilow Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations