

September 20, 2023

The Honorable Joe Manchin
U.S. Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Marco Rubio
U.S. Senate
284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Manchin and Rubio,

On behalf of Vizient, Inc., I am pleased to offer our endorsement for the Safety from Violence for Healthcare Employees (SAVE) Act. Workplace violence is a serious problem that has grown significantly for healthcare professionals in recent years. Your important, bipartisan and bicameral legislation would provide additional federal safeguards to protect healthcare workers from violence in the workplace and prevent interference with the performance of their duties.

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.

The SAVE Act would offer important protections to healthcare workers to ensure that they remain free from violence and intimidation while providing care. The bill imposes enhanced penalties on any individual who knowingly assaults or intimidates hospital employees, or others affiliated with a hospital or other medical facility, in the performance of their duties. While some states have adopted laws that increase penalties for violence against healthcare workers, your legislation would establish a needed federal standard that protects healthcare professionals from assault or intimidation. The bill would also designate federal funds for a Government Accountability Office (GAO) study on workplace violence in healthcare settings, an important step in helping realize the true impact on care of violence in the healthcare workplace.

The healthcare workforce has been facing a growing rate of violence in recent years, and this important legislation would be crucial in helping provide healthcare workers with a safer environment to continue to deliver high-quality care. We are pleased to support this legislation and encourage its swift passage.

Thank you for your leadership in introducing this bill. Please do not hesitate to contact me at shoshana.krillow@vizientinc.com 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,



Shoshana Krillow
Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations