

August 30, 2022

The Honorable Carol Miller
U.S. House of Representatives
465 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Terri Sewell
U.S. House of Representatives
2201 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Miller and Sewell,

On behalf of Vizient, Inc., and the health care provider members we serve, I am pleased to offer our endorsement for [H.R 8747](#), the Assistance for Rural Community Hospitals (ARCH) Act of 2022.

[Vizient, Inc.](#) is the nation's largest health care performance improvement company. We provide solutions and services that improve the delivery of high-value care by aligning cost, quality and market performance for more than half of the nation's health care providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics, advisory services, and a contract portfolio representing more than \$130 billion in annual member purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs.

As you know, over the last several years, hospitals have faced unprecedented clinical and financial disruptions while still providing quality, affordable care. These challenges have had a disproportionate impact on hospitals located in rural areas – specifically those that serve a higher proportion of Medicare patients. The Medicare-dependent Hospital (MDH) program, which is set to expire at the end of next month, provides vital support to eligible hospitals. Allowing it to expire would be needlessly disruptive and have negative financial impacts on those facilities at a time when they are already facing the impact of historic inflation and unprecedented staffing challenges. Your important bipartisan legislation would support these rural hospitals by extending the MDH program for five additional years through Oct. 1, 2027.

In addition to extending the MDH program, your legislation would also extend the enhanced low-volume Medicare adjustment for an additional five years. This critical lifeline provides hospitals who have low patient volumes with an additional reimbursement for each Medicare discharge. Extending this policy will ensure that rural hospitals have the long-term financial stability to provide quality care to the patients they serve.

We are pleased to offer our support for your legislation and are grateful for the additional support that Congress continues to provide for rural community hospitals. Thank you for your leadership on this important legislation. Please contact me at shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com or (202) 354-2607 if you have any questions or if there is any way we can be of assistance in getting this important legislation signed into law.

Sincerely,



Shoshana Krilow
Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations