

August 6, 2025

The Honorable Josh Hawley 381 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hawley,

On behalf of Vizient, Inc., I am pleased to offer our endorsement for the *Protect Medicaid and Rural Hospitals Act* (S.2279). This important legislation would repeal certain restrictive provisions from the *One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB)* to ensure that states can still appropriately finance their Medicaid programs and access to care is not threatened.

<u>Vizient, Inc.</u>, the nation's largest provider-driven healthcare performance improvement company, serves more than 65 percent of the nation's acute care providers, including 97 percent of the nation's academic medical centers, and more than 35 percent of the non-acute market. The Vizient contract portfolio represents \$140 billion in annual purchasing volume, enabling the delivery of cost-effective, high-value care. With its acquisition of Kaufman Hall in 2024, Vizient expanded its advisory services to help providers achieve financial, strategic, clinical and operational excellence. Headquartered in Irving, Texas, Vizient has offices throughout the United States.

As a trusted partner to hospitals and health systems across the country, Vizient supports the *Protect Medicaid and Rural Hospitals Act* for its approach to correcting recent policies passed in the OBBB by reinforcing critical Medicaid infrastructure. The bill ensures that hospitals and health systems retain the tools needed to manage patient care effectively, especially in rural and underserved areas where Medicaid is a primary payer. Reversing restrictions on provider taxes and state directed payments will allow hospitals to sustain essential services without added administrative or financial burden. Additionally, the \$50 billion increased investment over five years for the Rural Health Transformation Program affirms a commitment to recognizing the challenges continuing to face rural hospitals. Vizient is proud to support this legislation as a meaningful step toward restoring financial stability for providers and protecting access to care for our most vulnerable populations.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me at <a href="mailto:shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com">shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com</a> 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 Krilow

Shodhoma kulan

Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations