

February 10, 2022

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Shaheen and Collins,

I am writing to offer [Vizient's](#) support for the Provider Relief Fund Improvement Act. The Provider Relief Fund (PRF) has provided a critical lifeline for hospitals and other providers throughout the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, the surge of the Omicron variant, coupled with significant increases in expenses, has made continued access to these funds essential. Your bipartisan legislation would take important steps to allow hospitals to quickly access remaining PRF funding and provide clarity and flexibility around how those funds may be used.

Vizient, Inc. is the nation's largest health care 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 50% of the nation's acute care providers, which includes 95% of the nation's academic medical centers, and more than 20% of ambulatory providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics, and advisory services, as well as a contract portfolio that represents more than \$100 billion in annual purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs. Headquartered in Irving, Texas, Vizient has offices throughout the United States.

Vizient is proud to offer our support for your important legislation, which ensures that remaining PRF funds would be quickly distributed to hospitals and other health care providers to help alleviate the strain caused by mounting expenses and labor shortages, so that they can continue to provide life-saving care to their communities. Additionally, the legislation would extend the deadline for hospitals to use their awards through the remainder of the Public Health Emergency and clarify guidance around the use of PRF funds, including permitting PRF dollars to be used for workplace security and safety measures. Combined, these changes will help to improve the ongoing financial, operational and safety challenges faced by hospitals and caregivers continuing to serve on the front lines of this pandemic.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me at shoshana.krilow@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 this bill.

Sincerely,



Shoshana Krilow
Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations