

August 12, 2025

The Honorable Charles Schumer 413 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

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

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján 498 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Ron Wyden 221 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley 531 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Schumer, Wyden, Shaheen, Merkley and Luján,

On behalf of Vizient, Inc., I am pleased to offer our endorsement for the *Protecting Health Care and Lowering Costs Act* (S.2556). This important legislation would put patients first by repealing the damaging health provisions recently included in the *One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB)* and permanently extending enhanced Affordable Care Act (ACA) premium tax credits.

<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. 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 *Protecting Health Care and Lowering Costs Act* for its bold approach to repealing recent health policies passed in the OBBB. Reversing restrictions on provider taxes and state directed payments would ensure that states have the flexibility and tools needed to continue to fund their Medicaid programs, ensuring that vulnerable populations do not lose access to healthcare coverage. In addition, repealing restrictive Medicaid eligibility changes, such as work requirements and more frequent redeterminations, will similarly ensure that eligible Medicaid recipients receive the care they need. Altogether, the health provisions included in the OBBB will only serve to destabilize our country's safety net – threatening hospitals' financial viability and their ability to continue to provide life-saving access to care.

Finally, permanently extending enhanced ACA premium tax credits will enable millions to maintain access to affordable Marketplace health coverage, promoting public health and the stability of the health care system. Vizient supports this legislation as an important measure to help encourage financial stability for providers and ensure continued access to care for our most vulnerable communities.

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 your important legislation.

Sincerely,

Shoshana Krilow

Shodhomakulan

Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations