



July 19, 2017

The Honorable Michael Burgess, M.D.
U.S. House of Representatives
2336 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Diana DeGette
U.S. House of Representatives
2111 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Burgess and DeGette:

The undersigned members of the Diabetes Advocacy Alliance (DAA) congratulate you on the reintroduction of the Preventive Health Savings Act (H.R. 2953) and wish to express our support for this important legislation.

The DAA is a coalition of 21 diverse member organizations, representing patient, professional and trade associations, other non-profit organizations, and corporations, all united in the desire to change the way diabetes is viewed and treated in America. Our coalition seeks to improve the prevention, detection and care of diabetes, so we have a particular interest in any legislation that would show the true long-term savings of prevention measures.

As a physician leader and Chair of the Diabetes Caucus, respectively, you each bring an important voice for and understanding of this issue. As you well know, the diabetes epidemic has a tremendous reach and impact for the country, both in terms of its prevalence and associated economic costs for the federal government, particularly the Medicare program. And importantly, diabetes is a disease that can largely be prevented and managed, which dramatically reduces downstream medical costs while reducing the burden of the disease on patients and families. The CMS Actuary recently certified savings of \$2,650 per beneficiary in just 15 months (and more recent updates have shown even greater savings) from a community-based diabetes prevention program. However, some evidence-based preventive measures take longer to show their full positive impact on health care costs and savings, and health outcomes. For those, it is essential that Congress be given complete information on long-term savings.

The Preventive Health Savings Act fills this need by creating a process for CBO to provide Congress with additional information about the budget impact of preventive health beyond the existing 10-year scoring window before making a decision on a particular piece of legislation. By giving policymakers complete information, Congress will have the tools necessary to help shift our system from sick care to true health and wellness care. This will improve the health of all Americans, including those with costly chronic conditions such as diabetes.

Members of the DAA have seen firsthand the improved health outcomes and cost savings gained from evidence-based prevention measures. Thank you for your leadership on behalf of people with diabetes and prediabetes. We offer ourselves as a



resource to you and your staff as you continue to advance this vital legislation as well as your other important diabetes-related efforts.

Sincerely,

Undersigned members of the DAA

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
American Association of Diabetes Educators
American Clinical Laboratory Association
American Diabetes Association
American Medical Association
American Podiatric Medical Association
Endocrine Society
Healthcare Leadership Council
National Council on Aging
National Kidney Foundation
Novo Nordisk Inc.
Omada Health
Pediatric Endocrine Society
Quest Diagnostics
Weight Watchers International, Inc.
YMCA of the USA