



July 19, 2019

The Honorable Ami Bera, M.D.
U.S. House of Representatives
1727 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jason Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2418 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressmen Bera and Smith:

On behalf of the Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC), I am writing to express our strong support for your legislation to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Medicare beneficiaries to have and contribute to a health savings account (HSA). Thank you for introducing this important legislation.

HLC is a coalition of chief executives from all disciplines within American healthcare. It is the exclusive forum for the nation's healthcare leaders to jointly develop policies, plans, and programs to achieve their vision of a 21st century healthcare system that makes affordable high-quality care accessible to all Americans. Members of HLC – hospitals, academic health centers, health plans, pharmaceutical companies, medical device manufacturers, laboratories, biotech firms, health product distributors, post-acute care providers, home care providers, and information technology companies – advocate for measures to increase the quality and efficiency of healthcare through a patient-centered approach.

Like you, HLC believes all Americans should have access to affordable coverage for high-quality healthcare. HSAs can help Medicare beneficiaries cover out of pocket healthcare expenses with pre-tax dollars. These expenses may include copays and deductibles for dental, vision, and hearing expenses, among others, that are not covered by Medicare. This legislation would improve affordability and flexibility for all Medicare beneficiaries and align HSA policies for all individuals.

Thank you again for your work on this important legislation and your efforts to expand healthcare coverage for all Americans. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Debbie Witchey at (202) 449-3435 or dwitchey@hlc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary R. Grealy". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mary R. Grealy
President