



Resolution overturning 1332 guidance permitting states to undermine ACA patient protections to be voted on in the Senate

Leading National Patient and Consumer Organizations Urge the Senate to Pass a Resolution That Would Protect Patients

Washington, D.C., October 30, 2019 – 18 patient and consumer groups representing millions of people nationwide with pre-existing health conditions issued the following statement in support of a Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution that would overturn guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The resolution is scheduled for a vote in the Senate this week:

“Section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) allows states to waive specific requirements if they meet four statutory guardrails: coverage must be as affordable as it would be without the waiver; coverage must be as comprehensive as it would be without the waiver; a comparable number of people must be covered under the waiver as would be without it; and the waiver must not add to the federal deficit.

“Last year, CMS issued guidance that encourages states to submit waivers that do not meet these guardrails, undermining critical protections for millions of Americans living with pre-existing conditions. Additionally, the guidance could allow states to use federal tax dollars to promote substandard plans that do not provide comprehensive and affordable coverage.

“Our organizations advocate for all Americans to have access to healthcare that is **affordable, adequate, and accessible**. As patient and consumer advocates, we strongly support efforts to repeal the current 1332 guidance and urge all Senators to vote yes on this important resolution that would protect people with pre-existing conditions who receive coverage in the individual marketplace.”

###

ALS Association
 American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
 American Diabetes Association

American Heart Association
Arthritis Foundation
Chronic Disease Coalition
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Family Voices
Hemophilia Federation of America
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Patient Advocate Foundation
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease