

April 9, 2021

Chairman Ron Wyden
Senate Finance Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Mike Crapo
Senate Finance Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo:

On behalf of our nearly 5,000 member hospitals, health systems and other health care organizations, our clinician partners, including more than 270,000 affiliated physicians, 2 million nurses and other caregivers, and the 43,000 health care leaders who belong to our professional membership groups, the American Hospital Association (AHA) is pleased to support the nomination and confirmation of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure to serve as administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Ms. Brooks-LaSure has more than 20 years of experience in health policy, contributing to implementation of significant health care legislation such as the Affordable Care Act, which has afforded health care coverage to more than 23 million Americans. As deputy director for policy at the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and earlier at the Department of Health and Human Services as director of coverage policy, she led the agency's implementation of Affordable Care Act coverage and insurance reform policy provisions.

Ms. Brooks-LaSure also worked on the staff for members of the United States House Committee on Ways and Means. She has extensive experience working in a bipartisan manner and with various outside stakeholders. The AHA has worked with Ms. Brooks-LaSure during her career, she has been a champion for health care coverage and affordable health care, which the AHA has long supported. Throughout her time in public service, it is clear that Ms. Brooks-LaSure has consistently made people across America and their health a top priority.

There are many critical challenges facing the nation and the health care field. Nothing is more critical than the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring that hospitals, health systems and our heroic front-line caregivers have the resources and support they need to care for patients and win the battle against the virus. We also need to make important progress on advancing the transformation of health care, ensuring access to coverage, making health care equitable to all people in America and enhancing the quality of care.



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The AHA strongly supports Ms. Brooks-LaSure and encourages favorable consideration of her nomination. We look forward to working with her as the next administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to achieve our mutual mission of advancing the health of the patients and communities we are privileged to serve.

Sincerely,

/s/

Richard J. Pollack
President and CEO