



February 29, 2024

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to making healthcare more equitable, affordable, and accessible for all Americans.

I write to inform you that more than three years after the federal Hospital Price Transparency Rule took effect, **PatientRightsAdvocate.org's Sixth Semi-Annual Hospital Price Transparency Rule Compliance Report, published today, finds that just 34.5% of hospitals are fully complying with the rule. This is virtually unchanged, and a slight decrease, from the 36% compliance rate found in the fifth report released last July.**

Our comprehensive study of 2,000 hospitals indicates nearly two-thirds (65.5%) of hospitals reviewed continue failing to fully comply with the rule, yet the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has only [fined fourteen hospitals](#) for noncompliance out of the thousands found to not be meeting all of the rule's requirements. When hospitals don't post their prices, they can charge whatever they want. We work with patients across the country who are struggling under the weight of unexpectedly high medical bills.

**Hidden hospital prices disproportionately hurt underserved communities.** More than 100 million Americans are in medical debt—and multiple studies have found that [minorities](#) and [lower income](#) Americans are more likely to carry medical debt and face high healthcare costs. Systemwide healthcare price transparency would transform our broken healthcare system by giving all consumers – patients, employers, unions, and workers – access to actual prices and receipts for services and care.

Fortunately, a bipartisan bill introduced in the Senate by Senators Bernie Sanders and Mike Braun—and cosponsored by several other Democrats and Republicans—would strengthen and expand current healthcare price transparency rules. **The Braun-Sanders Senate Health Care PRICE Transparency Act 2.0 (S. 3548) is a bill that deserves the full support of the Biden Administration.**

The legislation protects patients by requiring real prices, not averages or estimates; expands transparency requirements to laboratories, imaging centers, and ambulatory surgical centers, which often have lower prices than hospitals; guarantees employers' access to their actual claims data; increases penalties for noncompliance; requires attestation by a hospital executive that all prices are accurate and complete; and codifies the requirement to disclose all payer and plan negotiated rates and all data elements to enable consumer-friendly search and comparison tools.

In short, the **Braun-Sanders Senate Health Care PRICE Transparency Act 2.0** represents a giant step forward for all Americans to know the prices up front and make well-informed healthcare decisions. This past year saw tremendous momentum in both the House and Senate, with bills seeking to lower the prices of healthcare, drugs, and coverage. But no bill demonstrates the bipartisan support of your actions to hold hospitals accountable and increase competition more than **S. 3548**.

The American people support efforts to lower the costs of healthcare through price transparency. **According to a [poll conducted by Marist](#) for PRA, 94% of Americans support healthcare price transparency.** This remains one of the most popular and unifying issues being considered in Washington today.

We urge you to vocally support the Braun-Sanders Senate Health Care PRICE Transparency Act 2.0 in order to empower unions, employers, and families to choose the best quality of care at the lowest price, ushering in a fair-priced and competitive market in healthcare.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia A. Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cynthia A. Fisher Founder and Chairman  
PatientRightsAdvocate.org

Attachment: Sixth Semi-Annual Hospital Price Transparency Compliance Report