

August 31, 2022

Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Department of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Subject: CMS-4203-NC; Request for Information on Medicare – Medicare Advantage

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure:

I write on behalf of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry (PA Chamber) in response to the request for information related to Medicare Advantage (MA) recently issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. We appreciate the opportunity to submit these comments.

The PA Chamber is the largest broad-based business association in Pennsylvania. Our nearly 10,000 members include employers across all industry sectors and of all sizes throughout the Commonwealth – from sole proprietors to some of our country’s largest corporations.

Health Care policy is a key focus for the PA Chamber and our member-driven [Health Care Policy position statement](#) recognizes the ongoing struggle to manage the cost and complexity of health care coverage while striving to maintain high standards of quality and accessibility. As the policy states: “Balancing cost, quality and accessibility within the health care system remains a challenge for all stakeholders in the process, including government, insurers, providers, purchasers and customers.”

Medicare Advantage was established to help stakeholders address this challenge by establishing a public-private partnership to expand and improve delivery of benefits and enhance efficiencies. Various types of MA stakeholders are part of the PA Chamber membership, including commercial health insurance carriers and employers who offer Employer Group Waiver Plans (EGWP). We strongly urge you to give due consideration to their comments in support of this program as well.

With respect to EGWPs specifically, the PA Chamber believes employers should be able to offer their workers high quality, affordable health care, either through traditional coverage or through alternative options in the marketplace. For many PA Chamber members, this commitment applies to their workforce both present and past, and many provide health insurance to retirees through EGWPs. These plans are a popular option for employers to provide quality care to their retirees and we support efforts to promote this program and encourage its widespread accessibility by a range of carriers and plans.

Thank you for considering our views in support of MA and EGWPs.

Sincerely,



Alex Halper
Director, Government Affairs