



May 15, 2017

Hon. Tammy Baldwin
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. John McCain
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Baldwin and Senator McCain:

The Alliance of Community Health Plans (ACHP) is pleased to support, “The Fair Accountability and Innovative Research Drug Pricing Act of 2017.” As health care payers, ACHP’s member plans are at the center of the relentless increase in prescription drug prices. It is our hope this bill will provide needed transparency to the way prescription drug prices are set. Building an information base about pricing is an essential first step to addressing the issue of skyrocketing drug costs.

The Alliance of Community Health Plans (ACHP) is a national leadership organization bringing together innovative health plans and provider groups that are among America’s best at delivering affordable, high-quality coverage and care. ACHP’s member health plans provide coverage and care for more than 18 million Americans across 27 states and the District of Columbia. These organizations focus on improving the health of the communities they serve and are on the leading edge of innovations in affordability and quality of care, including primary care redesign, payment reform, accountable health care delivery and use of information technology

Many of our plans have engaged – and continue to engage – in innovative ways to stem the recent increases in prescription drugs. In fact, ACHP members have implemented rigorous medication therapy management programs aimed at educating patients about how they can best manage their prescriptions and also to address any gaps in care. While these efforts can improve a patient’s health and put limited downward pressure on costs, they are, on their own, not enough to reduce the significant financial burden prescription drugs have become for patients and payers. ACHP’s member plans are encouraged by the recent bipartisan focus on escalating and unsustainably high prescription drug prices and their effect on consumers. We are eager to see that your legislation continues a necessary conversation in Congress about these important issues.

Thank you again for introducing this important legislation. ACHP and its member plans are always eager to work with Members of Congress on issues important to the health of all Americans. If you have any questions, please feel free to me at 202-785-2247 or cconnolly@achp.org.

Sincerely,

Ceci Connolly
President and CEO