



August 5, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader Schumer,

Our 27 organizations represent millions of patients and consumers who face serious, acute, and chronic health conditions. Together, we have a unique perspective on what individuals and families need to prevent disease, cure illness, and manage chronic health conditions. The diversity of our organizations and the populations we serve enable us to draw upon a wealth of knowledge and expertise that is an essential component of any discussion related to health care reform.

For many years, our organizations have consistently urged Congress to act on policies that would improve the quality, affordability, and accessibility of health coverage for everyone living in the United States. Throughout the reconciliation process, we have consistently elevated two urgent priorities that would help achieve these goals for the patients we represent: extending the enhanced advance premium tax credits (APTCs) enacted as part of the American Rescue Plan and closing the Medicaid coverage gap. Today, we applaud Congress' actions to extend the enhanced APTCs for three years as part of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

The IRA legislation takes important steps towards ensuring patients and consumers can afford the high-quality health insurance they need. By extending the enhanced APTCs, Congress will provide patients the security of knowing health coverage will remain within reach. On behalf of millions of patients nationwide, we support this important action and look forward to working with Congress to continue to make these tax credits permanent and explore other ideas to improve affordability of insurance and healthcare in the coming months and years.

While our organizations welcome the extension of APTCs, we are disappointed that this legislation fails to take any steps to address the Medicaid coverage gap in the twelve remaining non-expansion states. This omission leaves more than 2 million people with low incomes—many of whom are people of color—without access to quality health insurance.

Our commitment to the communities we represent is steadfast. As we applaud the Inflation Reduction Act's important investments in the health of our country, we also know that our work is not complete. We look forward to continuing our work with Congress, the Administration, and states to ensure that everyone living in the United States can access the health care they need to have healthy and fulfilling lives.

Sincerely,

American Cancer Society Cancer Action
Network
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Kidney Fund
American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Cancer Support Community
CancerCare
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Epilepsy Foundation
Hemophilia Federation of America
Immune Deficiency Foundation

March of Dimes
Mended Little Hearts
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Eczema Association
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Kidney Foundation
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Psoriasis Foundation
Susan G. Komen
The AIDS Institute
The ALS Association
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society