



September 18, 2023

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Chair  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jason Smith  
Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
United States House of Representatives  
1139 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx  
Chair  
Committee on Education and the Workforce  
United States House of Representatives  
2176 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Ways and Means  
United States House of Representatives  
1139 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Robert C. Scott  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Education and the Workforce  
United States House of Representatives  
2176 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Rodgers, Chair Smith, Chair Foxx, Ranking Member Pallone, Ranking Member Neal, and Ranking Member Scott:

AARP, which advocates for the more than 100 million Americans age 50 and over, is pleased to support the bipartisan Lower Costs, More Transparency Act. We appreciate your committees' work to lower costs and bring transparency to the healthcare system for all Americans.

AARP is encouraged that the bill seeks to make useful price and cost information more available to the public. Shining light on how much hospitals and facilities are charging for common services will help consumers find the right care for them. Not only will price transparency help consumers make informed decisions, but it can lead to greater price competition among providers. Although price is just one factor in health care decision-making, removing the mystery around costs will make the process less complicated and more informed.

AARP also supports efforts to implement site-neutral payment policies in Medicare. Paying the same rate for the same service regardless of facility will save the Medicare program money. More importantly, it will save Medicare beneficiaries money through lower cost-sharing. Site-neutral payments will also help maintain access and provider choice for Medicare beneficiaries by removing incentives to steer beneficiaries toward higher-cost facilities.

Finally, we are pleased that this bill continues Congress' work to lower prescription drug prices and increase transparency and competition in the prescription drug supply chain. AARP believes generic drugs are one of the safest and most effective ways for consumers to lower their prescription drug costs. We support the proposals that will help speed generic drug approvals and bring lower-priced generic drugs to market faster. We also support provisions that increase oversight of pharmacy benefit managers and ban "spread pricing" behavior in Medicaid. These measures will help increase accountability and inform other efforts to lower costs for consumers and taxpayers.

AARP appreciates your efforts to bring much-needed transparency and other improvements to our nation's health care system. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Glen Fewkes on our Government Affairs team at [gfewkes@aarp.org](mailto:gfewkes@aarp.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Bill Sweeney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bill Sweeney  
Senior Vice President  
Government Affairs