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# PARTNERSHIP TO AMEND 42 CFR PART 2

*A COALITION OF OVER 40 HEALTH CARE STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTED TO ALIGNING 42 CFR PART 2 (PART 2) WITH HIPAA TO ALLOW APPROPRIATE ACCESS TO PATIENT INFORMATION THAT IS ESSENTIAL FOR PROVIDING WHOLE-PERSON CARE.*

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June 13, 2018

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin  
United States House of Representatives  
1113 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer  
United States House of Representatives  
1111 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Mullin and Blumenauer:

The undersigned members of the Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 (Partnership) and additional stakeholder organizations applaud your leadership on the issue of substance use disorder privacy records. We strongly support the Overdose Prevention and Patient Safety (OPPS) Act, H.R. 6082, which will align 42 CFR Part 2 (Part 2) with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for the purposes of health care treatment, payment, and operations (TPO). The Partnership is pleased that the OPPS Act was voted out of the Committee on Energy and Commerce with a bipartisan vote.

The Partnership is a coalition of more than 40 organizations representing stakeholders across the health care spectrum committed to aligning Part 2 with HIPAA to allow appropriate access to patient information that is essential for providing whole-person care.

We are pleased that the bill aligns Part 2 with HIPAA's consent requirements for the purposes of TPO, which will allow for the appropriate sharing of substance use disorder records, among covered entities, to ensure persons with opioid use disorder and other substance use disorders receive the integrated care they need. Additionally, as we do not want patients with substance use disorders to be made vulnerable as a result of seeking treatment for addiction, this legislation strengthens protections and limits the number of institutions that have access to patient records.

Thank you both for your leadership on this issue and we look forward to working with you on helping to address the opioid crisis by passing this important bipartisan legislation on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

**Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 Members**

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Health Information Management Association  
American Hospital Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Society of Addiction Medicine  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
America's Essential Hospitals

America's Health Insurance Plans  
AMGA  
Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare  
Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness  
Association for Community Affiliated Plans  
BlueCross BlueShield Association  
Catholic Health Association of the U.S.  
Centerstone  
Confidentiality Coalition  
Employee Assistance Professionals Association  
Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice  
Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation  
Health IT Now  
Healthcare Leadership Council  
The Joint Commission  
InfoMC  
Medicaid Health Plans of America  
Mental Health America  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Association for Behavioral Healthcare  
National Association of ACOs  
National Association of Counties (NACo)  
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)  
Netsmart  
OCHIN  
Otsuka  
Premier Healthcare Alliance

### **Additional Stakeholder Organizations**

ACO Health Partners  
Aetna  
AMITA Health  
Anthem, Inc.  
Ascension Health  
Avera Health  
Banner Health  
Baptist Healthcare System  
Beacon Health Options  
Bon Secours Health System, Inc.  
Catholic Health Initiatives  
Centene Corporation  
Change Healthcare  
Cigna  
College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME)  
Excellus BlueCross BlueShield  
Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity Sponsored Ministries, Inc.  
Greater New York Hospital Association

Henry Ford Health System  
Howe Home Designers  
Johns Hopkins Medicine  
Kern Health Systems  
Leidos  
Lycoming County  
Magellan Health  
Marshfield Clinic Health System  
Mental Health America of Indiana  
Mosaic Life Care  
NAMI  
NAMI DC  
NAMI Delaware  
NAMI Greene County Tennessee  
NAMI Helena  
NAMI of Howard County, MD  
NAMI Jefferson County, Washington  
NAMI Kaufman County  
NAMI Kershaw County  
NAMI Lewistown  
NAMI Lexington  
NAMI of the Pee Dee (South Carolina)  
NAMI Piedmont Tri-County  
NAMI Sarasota County  
NAMI South Suburbs of Chicago  
NAMI Sussex, Inc.  
NAMI Temple Area  
NAMI Utah  
NAMI Valley of the Sun  
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Texas  
National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers  
New Directions Behavioral Health  
OPEN MINDS  
Optum  
PerformCare  
Providence St. Joseph Health  
SCAN Health Plan  
SSM Health  
Texas Health Resources  
The Center for Health Affairs/Northeast Ohio Hospital Opioid Consortium  
The MetroHealth System  
Trinity Health  
University of Tennessee Medical Center  
Valley Health System  
Vizient  
Wayne Meriwether