



Charles N. Kahn III
President and CEO

April 8, 2021

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Chairman
U.S. Senate Finance Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Finance Committee
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo:

On behalf of the Federation of American Hospitals (FAH), the national representative for over 1,000 leading tax-paying hospitals and health systems throughout the United States, I would like to express our strong support for the historic nomination and confirmation of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure to serve as the next Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). From my viewpoint, Ms. Brooks-LaSure is unequivocally qualified to serve the country as CMS Administrator.

FAH members provide patients and communities with access to high-quality, affordable care across 45 states in both urban and rural America. Our members include teaching and non-teaching, acute, inpatient rehabilitation, behavioral health, and long-term care hospitals and provide a wide range of inpatient, ambulatory, post-acute, emergency, children's, and cancer services.

With more than two decades of experience in both the public and private sectors, Ms. Brooks-LaSure has both the health policy expertise and sound judgment to lead CMS at this critical juncture. I would be hard-pressed to think of someone with a deeper appreciation for the intricacies of both the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Her unyielding commitment to high-quality, equitable health care, along with innovation in its delivery, will generate a new era of policies that will benefit both patients and providers alike.

The nation will also be well-served by Ms. Brooks-LaSure's keen understanding of the *Affordable Care Act (ACA)*, having played an integral role in both the formulation and implementation of the historic reform of our health care system. As the Biden Administration

seeks to bolster the ACA, Ms. Brooks-LaSure is highly equipped to lead CMS and ensure that the ACA, when fully implemented, can meet its intended potential.

As we remain hopeful that the end of the COVID-19 pandemic is near, we look forward to collaborating with Ms. Brooks-LaSure in what we are certain will be a robust, patient-centered agenda, from achieving universal access to health coverage to advancing health equity to expanding the use of telehealth, particularly in rural and underserved communities.

The Federation of American Hospitals urges the Senate Finance Committee to approve Ms. Brooks-LaSure's nomination expeditiously, and we support her confirmation by the full U.S. Senate.

If you have any questions or wish to speak further, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 202-624-1534.

Sincerely,

