

February 4, 2026
For Immediate Release

ALLIANCE APPLAUDS PASSAGE OF HONEST BILLING PROVISION *Step in the right direction for more transparent, affordable health care*

The **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** applauds Congress for passing a policy to increase transparency into hospital billing practices in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026. This policy serves as an important step toward lowering health care costs for workers, employers, and the federal government.

The **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** is a diverse coalition comprised of businesses, patient advocates, employer organizations, unions, health care companies, consumer groups, and other stakeholders that support employer-provided health coverage. Together, we are working to ensure that employer-provided coverage remains an available and affordable option for working Americans and their families. The Alliance is dedicated to pursuing policies that increase competition and transparency to bring meaningful change — and cost savings — to our health care system and patients everywhere.

The Alliance applauds the passage of **Section 6225 in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026: Requiring a Separate ID Number and an Attestation for Each Off-Campus Outpatient Department of a Provider**. This commonsense policy requires each off-campus hospital outpatient department (HOPD) of a Medicare provider to obtain and use a unique national provider identifier (NPI) on billing claims for services.

By requiring off-campus HOPDs of Medicare providers to obtain and use a unique NPI, Congress will help patients and payers have the data necessary to dispute erroneous fees, unfair add-on costs, hospital upcharges and other junk fees. This would result in meaningful savings for patients, payers, and the federal government. The Congressional Budget Office has [estimated](#) the provision would save the federal government \$403 million over a 10-year period.

But this policy is only the beginning. Congress can build on this policy and further reduce patients' out-of-pocket costs for outpatient care by enacting site-neutral payment reforms and addressing the underlying Medicare payment disparity that pays more for certain services provided in off-campus HOPDs. According to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC), this disparity incentivizes health care consolidation and leads to higher health care costs. It also makes it harder for smaller, independent physician practices to compete. As shown in an AMA survey, the majority of physicians now work outside of physician-owned practices, a [trend](#) that has sharply risen since 2012.

Click below for more information about policies the Alliance supports.

[Letter to Congress: Alliance supports Honest Billing provision in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026](#)

[Letter to Congress: Alliance outline 2026 policy priorities to make health care more affordable](#)

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