

For Immediate Release April 26, 2023 Contact: <u>Tara Bradshaw</u>

## Alliance to Fight for Health Care applauds congressional attention on health care costs

The **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** applauds congressional attention from two key committees today in their consideration of how to reduce health care costs for ALL Americans. The House Energy & Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled "Lowering Unaffordable Costs: Legislative Solutions to Increase Transparency and Competition in Health Care" and the House Committee on Education and Workforce Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled, "Reducing Health Care Costs for Working Americans and Their Families."

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 by **lowering the cost of health care services and increasing transparency and innovation.** 

Health care costs continue to be a significant barrier to care for patients. A recent Morning Consult poll on health care issues conducted on behalf of the Alliance found health care costs are the No. 1 concern among insured Americans. What's more, 57% of insured adults said reducing health care costs should be Congress' top priority. But insured adults do not want to start over. Nearly 70% of insured adults, across the political spectrum, prefer to strengthen the existing system. Further, a majority of adults want Congress to work to lower the cost of health care for ALL Americans, not just those who receive coverage on the exchanges or in federal health care programs like Medicare and Medicaid.

The Alliance submitted comments for the record (Energy & Commerce and Education & Workforce) that highlight our commitment to working with the committees and Congress "to improve the U.S. health care system and reduce health care costs for ALL Americans by advancing policies to reduce health insurance premiums and increase affordability." The Alliance notes that "we come to the table with bipartisan ideas . . . like expanding access to employer-provided telehealth, preserving ERISA preemption and preventing unfair hospital billing practices . . . These small steps will benefit patients and improve transparency and accountability."

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 effective and affordable option for working Americans and their families. The coalition (previously working as the Alliance to Fight the 40), led the successful effort to repeal the so-called 40% "Cadillac Tax" on health care coverage.

