



## National patient organizations applaud Biden administration rule implementing the No Surprises Act

*Interim final rule includes safeguards for patients and protects individuals from surprise medical bills*

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 14, 2021 – 27 patient and consumer organizations representing millions of people facing serious, acute, chronic health conditions commend the Biden administration on the July 1 release of an interim final rule that will prevent patients from receiving surprise medical bills as required by the No Surprises Act, which became law in December as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act.

The interim final rule released by the departments of Health and Human Services, Treasury and Labor includes robust safeguards for patients and consumers nationwide. The groups commend the rule for:

- Providing consumers with clear, comprehensive protections against surprise bills where they have not knowingly obtained out-of-network care;
- Including strong protections to help limit surprise bills for services following emergency care;
- Ensuring that patients do not face higher cost sharing when a provider bills less than the median in-network rate; and
- Clarifying that plans and issuers cannot retroactively deny coverage for emergency care.

“Our organizations are pleased to see that the interim final rule implements the key patient protections in the No Surprises Act and addresses several areas of concern [we recently raised to the Biden administration](#),” the organizations stated. “While we believe additional steps could be taken to strengthen the rule, as written, the rule ensures that patients are held harmless from most surprise bills and protects health care affordability and access. We look forward to working alongside the administration as it works to implement the No Surprises Act.”

Alpha-1 Foundation  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American Diabetes Association  
American Heart Association  
American Kidney Fund  
American Lung Association  
Arthritis Foundation  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
*CancerCare*  
Cancer Support Community  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Family Voices  
Hemophilia Federation of America  
JDRF  
Muscular Dystrophy Association  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Eczema Association  
National Health Council  
National Hemophilia Foundation  
National MS Society  
National Organization for Rare Disorders  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
Susan G. Komen  
The AIDS Institute  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease