

August 25, 2022

Ms. Chiquita Brooks-LaSure Administrator Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Department of Health & Human Services 200 Independence Avenue SW Washington, D.C. 20201

## Attention: CMS-4203-NC; Medicare Program - Request for Information on Medicare Advantage

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure:

On behalf of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Medicare Advantage program.

At the Kansas Chamber, our mission is to continually strive to improve the economic climate for the benefit of every business and citizen and to safeguard our system of free, competitive enterprise. We support meaningful health care reform aimed at lowering the overall cost of health care so it is more affordable for employers.

Kansas businesses are able to provide high-quality, affordable health coverage to their employees and retirees through Employer Group Waiver Plans (EGWPs), a type of Medicare Advantage plan. In fact, up to 19% of Medicare Advantage enrollees in Kansas are covered under EGWPs.<sup>1</sup>

Medicare Advantage is an important example of a public-private partnership and provides more than 150,000 Kansans with access to high-quality care. Medicare Advantage plans are more affordable while offering comprehensive services that exceed offerings in Medicare Fee-for-Service plans – such as prescription drug coverage, wellness benefits, and enhanced telehealth services.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share our perspectives on Medicare Advantage. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (785) 357-6321 or by email at <a href="mailto:erics@kansaschamber.org">erics@kansaschamber.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Eric Stafford

Vice President of Government Affairs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Better Medicare Alliance, Employer Group Waiver Plans, 2018 (Link)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Better Medicare Alliance, Medicare Advantage Enrollment Map, 2021 (Link)