August 24, 2022

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

RE: CMS-4203-NC

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure:

The Reno + Sparks Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in northern Nevada representing over 2,000 businesses that employ more than 110,000 residents in our community. We are the voice for business in Washoe County and focused on three pillars of value: advocacy, information and connectivity.

Medicare Advantage plans provide Nevadans with affordable and accessible health care coverage. About 262,000 eligible Medicare beneficiaries are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans in the Silver State. Through Medicare Advantage, seniors can access valuable services that go beyond traditional Medicare benefits, such as vision, dental, hearing, and prescription drug coverage, as well as additional telehealth and wellness benefits.

Nevada, and Washoe County, are home to a very diverse population. Twenty-five percent of Washoe County residents identify as Hispanic or Latino. Latino beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Advantage spend an average of $1,421 less on out-of-pocket costs and premiums than Latino beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Fee-for-Service. Nevada seniors, especially those on a fixed income, appreciate these extra savings from Medicare Advantage plans.

Medicare Advantage is working for Nevadan seniors so we ask you to please protect this program. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this important program. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Ann Silver
Chief Executive Officer
Reno + Sparks Chamber of Commerce

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2 United States Census Bureau: Washoe County, Nevada: https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/washoe-countynevada