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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:

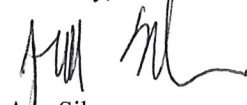
The Reno + Sparks Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in northern Nevada representing over 2,000 businesses that employ more than 110,000 residents in our community. We are the voice for business in Washoe County and focused on three pillars of value: advocacy, information and connectivity.

Medicare Advantage plans provide Nevadans with affordable and accessible health care coverage. About 262,000 eligible Medicare beneficiaries<sup>i</sup> 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.<sup>ii</sup> Latino beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Advantage spend an average of \$1,421 less<sup>iii</sup> 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

<sup>i</sup> Better Medicare Alliance: Nevada [Medicare Advantage Enrollment Map](https://bettermedicarealliance.org/medicare-advantage/about-medicare-advantage/medicare-advantage-enrollment-map/nevada/districts/).  
<https://bettermedicarealliance.org/medicare-advantage/about-medicare-advantage/medicare-advantage-enrollment-map/nevada/districts/>

<sup>ii</sup> United States Census Bureau: Washoe County, Nevada:  
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/washoecountynevada>

<sup>iii</sup> Better Medicare Alliance, Medicare Advantage Outperforms FFS Medicare on Cost Protections for Low-Income and Diverse Populations, April 2022: [https://bettermedicarealliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/BMA-Medicare-Advantage-Cost-Protections-Data-Brief\\_FINv2.pdf](https://bettermedicarealliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/BMA-Medicare-Advantage-Cost-Protections-Data-Brief_FINv2.pdf)