



THE TEXAS STATE CHAMBER

TAB's purpose is to champion the best business climate in the world, unleashing the power of free enterprise to enhance lives for generations.

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for nearly 100 years

August 31, 2022

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

**RE: CMS-4203-NC – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare Program:
Request for Information on Medicare Advantage**

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure,

The Texas Association of Business (TAB), the Texas State Chamber, is the largest general business association in the state. On behalf of over 1,500 Texas businesses, 200 local chambers of commerce, along with their hundreds of thousands of employees, TAB works in a bipartisan manner to champion the best business climate in the world, unleashing the power of free enterprise to enhance lives for generations. To that end, we believe access to quality health care is important.

The Medicare Advantage program is an important coverage option for seniors to access comprehensive, affordable, and high-quality health care. More than 2.1 million Texas seniors are currently enrolled in Medicare Advantage, which is 48% of the eligible population.

Through Medicare Advantage, Texas businesses can also provide comprehensive and affordable health care to their retired employees through the program's Employer Group Waiver Plans (EGWPs). There are currently more than 380,000 Texas retirees receiving high quality, value-based care through these plans.

On behalf of Texas employers, we encourage CMS to protect the Medicare Advantage program. We thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments and ask that you please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Hamer". The signature is stylized with a large initial "G" and "H".

Glenn Hamer
President & CEO
Texas Association of Business

¹ Better Medicare Alliance, Medicare Advantage Enrollment Map, <https://bettermedicarealliance.org/medicare-advantage/about-medicare-advantage/medicare-advantage-enrollment-map/texas/counties/>

² *Id.*