June 12, 2023

The Honorable Richard Hudson U.S. House of Representatives 2112 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Troy Balderson U.S. House of Representatives 2429 Rayburn House Office Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Josh Gottheimer U.S. House of Representatives 203 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Lori Trahan U.S. House of Representatives 2439 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Reps. Hudson, Gottheimer, Balderson and Trahan:

As organizations dedicated to ensuring a resilient and reliable healthcare supply chain during national emergencies, we write in strong support of the Medical and Health Stockpile Accountability Act (<u>H.R. 3577</u>) which would require the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) to establish an automated supply chain tracking application that provides insight into critical medical supplies across the country.

The Medical and Health Stockpile Accountability Act is designed to ensure the nation's healthcare providers and the patients they care for never again face the widespread supply shortages and uncertainty that plagued the U.S. during the pandemic. One of the most vexing problems that presented during the pandemic was the lack of visibility into the quantity and location of critical medical supplies and pharmaceuticals on U.S. soil. As <u>highlighted by the GAO</u>, the opaqueness of the healthcare supply chain failed to provide us with early warnings of supply shortages and the information necessary to overcome them.

The Medical and Health Stockpile Accountability Act creates an urgently needed national automated information collection infrastructure that can track critical product availability - from the manufacturer, to distribution, to stockpiles, to hospital inventory. This system would be activated during emergencies to provide federal and state governments, as well as hospitals and certain private sector partners, with insights to enable accurate and educated decisions about supply needs at the local, state, regional and national levels. It would also standardize and automate the collection and reporting of information across the entire supply chain, eliminating manual reporting burden.

With robust guardrails, the Medical and Health Stockpile Accountability Act will protect confidential and proprietary information. It would also ensure that this information is leveraged for planning and allocation purposes only and that product cannot be confiscated from health systems and other entities. The bill also ensures that all hospitals across the country, including those in rural communities, are able to leverage the automated supply chain tracking application.

The Medical and Health Stockpile Accountability Act reflects our on-the-ground learnings and input as organizations that have first-hand knowledge of existing supply chain infrastructure challenges. Transparency into the healthcare supply chain will help pinpoint the intersection of supply and demand, better identify areas of vulnerability, and enable timely access to the vital supplies providers need to care for patients.

We urge Congress to include the Medical and Health Stockpile Accountability Act as part of the forthcoming Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) reauthorization.

cc: House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Cathy McMorris Rodgers House Energy and Commerce Committee Ranking Member Frank Pallone House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee Chair Brett Guthrie House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee Ranking Member Anna Eshoo

Sincerely,

Adventist Health Advocate Health America's Essential Hospitals Avera Health Banner Health Capstone Health Alliance Catholic Health Association of the United States ChristianaCare CNECT CommonSpirit Health **CorVent Medical Inc** Exela Pharma Sciences, LLC EZ Way, Inc. Federation of American Hospitals FirstHealth of the Carolinas GenieMD. Inc. Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin Healthcare Leadership Council Healthmark HonorHealth I.C. Medical, Inc. McLaren Health Care Memorial Health System Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare MYCO Medical **NOW Interactives LLC** Onsite Management Group Pandion Optimization Alliance Performance Health Supply, LLC **Prairie Health Ventures** Premier Inc. Prestige Ameritech S2S Global Sklar Corporation Slayback Pharma LLC Sophysa USA, Inc. Southcoast Health Strategic Audit Solutions, Inc. Tanner Health System

Tetra Medical Supply Corp. Texas Health Resources The Center for Health Affairs - CLE Hospital Association and CHAMPS Healthcare (GPO) TMG Health Technologies Trinity Health UISS UnityPoint Health USAntibiotics, LLC Vantage Health Group Vantage Point Logistics WakeMed Heath & Hospitals Yankee Alliance