



*A Passionate Voice for Compassionate Care*

June 18, 2019

United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA), the national leadership organization of more than 2,200 Catholic health care systems, hospitals, long-term care facilities, sponsors, and related organizations, I am writing to express our support for the Empowering Beneficiaries, Ensuring Access, and Strengthening Accountability Act of 2019 (H.R. 3253, sponsored by Rep. Debbie Dingell), which is being considered by the full House of Representatives. H.R. 3022 would provide for extensions to several Medicaid programs including the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration and the Community Mental Health Services Demonstration Program.

CHA has long supported these initiatives that strengthen the Medicaid program for beneficiaries, including seniors and those seeking behavioral health care. The programs that are being extended in H.R. 3253 aim to coordinate and integrate person-centered health care services along the continuum of care, which improve the wellbeing of beneficiaries. Specifically, the MFP program has been successful in helping vulnerable, low-income older adults and people with disabilities to live with dignity in the care settings of their choice. Similarly, the Community Mental Health Services Demonstration program has been successful in providing access to comprehensive care and treatment for individuals with the most complex mental illnesses and addictions.

We look forward to working with you and all Members of Congress in support of this bill and to continue to enhance and improve the Medicaid program for our nation's poor and vulnerable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sr. Carol Keehan". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sr. Carol Keehan, DC  
President and CEO