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CHA Supports Heroes Act

Statement by Sr. Mary Haddad, RSM, President and Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Health Association of the United States

WASHINGTON, DC – The Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA) is pleased to express our support for the Heroes Act, the fourth COVID-19 supplemental legislation introduced in the House of Representatives this week.

While several priorities for the Catholic health ministry resulting from the pandemic remain in need of legislative action, the Heroes Act addresses many areas of assistance our hospitals, long-term care facilities and other providers need as they continue caring for those who have been affected by COVID-19 and individuals and families in their communities: increasing financial support and protection for our frontline health care facilities and providers; protecting and expanding health care coverage and access; and providing additional support for those who increasingly rely on the social safety net at this time.

CHA firmly believes that additional congressional action to support the nation and our efforts to address the pandemic must be broad-based and take into account the necessities of those suffering from COVID-19 and those caring for them, as well as vulnerable individuals in our communities by addressing the many other basic needs that can determine health outcomes.

As this legislation goes before Congress for consideration, CHA calls on all members of the House and Senate to work together to produce a bipartisan legislative package that will meet the needs of individuals and families, and support our communities, states and nation during this ongoing public health emergency.

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The Catholic Health Association of the United States is the national leadership organization of the Catholic health ministry, representing the largest nonprofit provider of health care services in the nation.

- 1 in 7 patients in the U.S. is cared for in a Catholic hospital each day.
- Catholic health care, which includes more than 2,200 hospitals, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, systems, sponsors, and related organizations, serves the full continuum of health care across our nation.
- Learn more at <u>www.chausa.org</u>.