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THE CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES STATEMENT ON PASSAGE OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

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) welcomes the enactment of the American Rescue Plan, which represents a major effort to help combat the COVID-19 pandemic and provide critical support for individuals, families and communities across our country.

While no law is perfect, the American Rescue Plan represents one of the most significant steps in combatting poverty in our nation's history by bolstering safety net programs, increasing economic support and expanding access to affordable health care coverage to millions of individuals and families at a most urgent time in our country's history. Extending unemployment compensation, continuing eviction and foreclosure moratoriums, increasing food access and expanding the child tax credit among other provisions will have a direct impact on improving health outcomes. Following the loss of so many lives and livelihoods, we believe this legislation will provide the necessary resources for our nation to continue working together to end the pandemic, support individuals and families and begin to rebuild our communities.

We look forward to working with Congress and the Administration to ensure health care providers continue to have the necessary resources to care for those who are sick and in need as we battle this pandemic and to ensure everyone in our country is able to emerge from this crisis stronger."

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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>.