



Charlene MacDonald  
Executive Vice President, Public Affairs

September 22, 2025

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto  
U.S. Senate  
309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jodey Arrington  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1111 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn  
U.S. Senate  
357 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Linda Sánchez  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2309 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Cortez Masto and Blackburn, and Representatives Arrington and Sánchez,

The Federation of American Hospitals (FAH) is pleased to endorse the *Medicare Advantage (MA) Prompt Pay Act (H.R. 5454 / S. 2879)*. Too often, arbitrary delays and denials threaten seniors' access to care and further strain hospital finances. This commonsense, bipartisan bill represents an important step toward increasing accountability for health insurers and creating sensible guidelines for the prompt payment of provider claims. FAH is grateful to Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), and Representatives Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Linda Sánchez (D-CA) for introducing the Medicare Advantage (MA) Prompt Pay Act and protecting seniors' access to 24/7 care.

The FAH is the national representative of more than 1,000 leading tax-paying hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. FAH members provide patients and communities with access to high-quality, affordable care in both urban and rural areas across 46 states, plus Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. Our members include teaching, acute, inpatient rehabilitation, behavioral health, and long-term care hospitals and provide a wide range of inpatient, ambulatory, post-acute, emergency, children's, and cancer services.

Existing law has long required prompt payment of claims in traditional Medicare. Under current law, however, MA lacks a comparable standard for timely reimbursement of claims billed by in-network providers. This often results in significant delays and denials of claims, which can jeopardize patient care, particularly for seniors who rely on timely access to medical services. The absence of a consistent and enforceable rule for prompt reimbursement undermines the stability and reliability of the MA program.

The proposed legislation addresses this issue by mandating that MA plans pay at least 95 percent of "clean claims" within 30 days of receipt of a written claim and 14 days for an electronic claim. This clear and enforceable guideline will help ensure that providers are reimbursed promptly, reducing the administrative burden and financial strain on

healthcare providers, patients, and plans. Further, the bill provides the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) with the necessary authority to enforce prompt payment requirements, a critical step in holding MA plans accountable and protecting the interests of both providers and patients.

The importance of this legislation cannot be overstated, especially as MA enrollment continues to grow, now surpassing traditional Medicare with 32.8 million enrollees. Ensuring timely payments will help maintain the viability of MA participation for hospitals and physicians, particularly in rural areas where healthcare resources are already stretched thin. In essence, this overdue legislation ensures Medicare Advantage plans have to play by the rules.

The FAH commends your leadership in addressing this pressing issue and urges your colleagues in Congress to support the MA Prompt Pay Act. By passing this legislation, we can strengthen the MA program, protect seniors' access to care, and ensure that healthcare providers are fairly compensated for the vital services they deliver.

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If you have any questions or wish to speak further, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [cmacdonald@fah.org](mailto:cmacdonald@fah.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris MacDonald".