



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NAHU Statement in Opposition of Arbitration Amendment

Washington, D.C. — The National Association of Health Underwriters (NAHU) adamantly opposes the inclusion of a costly and very poorly designed arbitration amendment in the surprise billing markup in the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

“NAHU will continue to champion the original bipartisan solution introduced by Representatives Frank Pallone (D-NJ) and Greg Walden (R-OR), the top Democrat and Republican on the House Energy and Commerce Committee,” stated NAHU CEO Janet Trautwein. “The No Surprises Act establishes a competitive payment benchmark to resolve out-of-network payment disputes between providers and insurers, with no need for costly arbitration.

“Arbitration will not help patients facing surprise medical billing nightmares. Allowing out-of-network rate setting decisions to a third-party will lead to more bureaucracy, less transparency and roughly \$1 billion in additional costs to the health system. While the No Surprises Act seeks to protect patients from surprise billing, if the arbitration amendment is added we believe surprise billing will continue unabated.

“The practice of surprise billing must come to an end, and we will continue to support solutions that focus on the patient, not the provider, with the overall goal of lowering healthcare costs for everyone.”

The National Association of Health Underwriters represents 100,000 professional health insurance agents and brokers who provide insurance for millions of Americans. NAHU is headquartered in Washington, D.C. For more information, visit www.nahu.org.

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