



**March 1, 2022**

**The Honorable Cindy Axne  
United House of Representatives  
1034 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515**

**The Honorable Anthony Gonzalez  
United House of Representatives  
2458 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515**

**The Honorable Nancy Mace  
United House of Representatives  
212 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515**

**The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks  
United House of Representatives  
1716 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515**

**The Honorable Abigail Spanberger  
United States House of Representatives  
1431 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515**

**Dear Representatives Axne, Gonzalez, Mace, Miller-Meeks, and Spanberger:**

The undersigned organizations represent thousands of health and long-term care services and supports providers and stakeholders that care for those most in need across the country. As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic has deeply challenged the entire health care continuum: the industry is grappling with a historic workforce crisis, financial challenges, and closures of some communities and centers across the country. The Provider Relief Fund (PRF) has been a lifeline for many and has helped to ensure that our nation’s long-term care services and supports providers can continue to provide the needed care to our nation’s frail, elderly, individuals with disabilities and most vulnerable.

We thank you for your support of the PRF and for recently introducing the *Provider Relief Fund Improvement Act (H.R. 5963)* which helps health care providers by:

- Extending current reporting and use-of-funds deadlines to the end of the pandemic;
- Ensuring that workplace safety improvements – such as security personnel, risk assessments and physical improvements, including panic buttons and security cameras – are an allowable use of PRF dollars;

- Directing HRSA to distribute any funds remaining in the PRF by either the end of the public health emergency or by March 31, 2022, and;
- Creating an application process for certain providers to receive funds returned in compliance with previous deadlines.

We endorse this legislation and, in addition to pushing out any remaining dollars in the PRF to our very deserving providers, we also urge your support for a replenishment of the PRF as this pandemic and the impact of it is not over. Please know that we are here to answer any questions you might have. Our provider and stakeholder members would welcome the opportunity to visit with you at any time to talk in more detail about how the PRF has been critical for the long-term care sector and those they serve.

Sincerely,



**Mark Parkinson**  
President & CEO  
American Health Care Association



**LaShuan Bethea**  
Executive Director  
National Center for Assisted Living



**Katie Smith Sloan**  
President & CEO  
LeadingAge



**Patricia Budo**  
Executive Director  
Pediatric Complex Care Association



**Heyward Hilliard**  
President  
National Association of  
State Veterans Homes



**Don Shulman**  
President & CEO  
Association of Jewish Aging Services



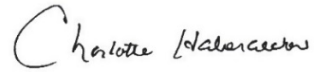
**James Balda**  
President & CEO  
Argentum



**Jonathan S. Westin**  
Senior Director  
The Jewish Federations  
of North America



**Christopher E. Laxton, CAE**  
Executive Director  
The Society for Post-Acute  
And Long Term Care Medicine



**Charlotte Haberaecker**  
President and CEO  
Lutheran Services in America



**Barbara Bowers PhD, RN, FAAN**  
Chair  
Advancing Excellence in Long Term  
Care Collaborative, Inc.



**Shannon McCracken**  
VP, Government Relations  
American Network of Community  
Options and Resources



**David Schless**  
President  
American Seniors Housing Association