Stop Fraud Without Restricting Access to Care at Home

Support the Protecting Seniors and Stopping Fraudsters Act (H.R. 8883)

THE ASK

The Alliance encourages Congress to pass the **Protecting Seniors and Stopping Fraudsters Act (H.R. 8883),** a targeted program integrity bill that improves oversight to effectively target fraud and abuse in home health and hospice while ensuring good-faith providers can deliver quality care at home without disruption.

TOPLINE

- Fraud in federal healthcare programs harms vulnerable patients and legitimate providers, wastes taxpayer dollars, and undermines trust in essential care at home programs.
- Medicare home health and hospice programs need strong, targeted safeguards to identify and remove fraudulent actors. Overly broad policies, including the current six-month moratorium on new Medicare enrollment for home health and hospices, risk restricting patient access to care at home and increasing burden for legitimate providers.
- The Alliance encourages a comprehensive approach to identify and target fraud and opposes blanket policies that could reduce access to high-quality care at home.

RATIONALE

The Vast Majority of Providers Are Delivering Compliant Care

- **Most providers are delivering clinically appropriate, patient-centered care.** Public data show that instances of fraud are centered in specific geographies, making targeted, data-informed enforcement strategies essential to effectively combating fraud, waste, and abuse.

Restricting New Providers Could Worsen Existing Access Challenges

- **Despite being a patient-preferred option for care, many communities are already facing a shortage of home health and hospice providers.** A nationwide provider enrollment freeze negatively impacts communities with no demonstrated fraud risk by limiting patient choice and provider capacity, increasing wait times for home-based services, and further restricting access to care in rural and underserved areas.
- **Home health and hospice are proven to lower costs for the Medicare system.** When these options are unavailable, it could increase the risk of health crises, poor outcomes, and patient utilization of high-cost care alternatives.

SOLUTION

The Protecting Seniors and Stopping Fraudsters Act (H.R. 8883), introduced by Representative Beth Van Duyne (TX-24), would strengthen enrollment controls with risk-based oversight and regulatory tools and enact program integrity measures that prioritize public transparency and accountability.

Key provisions include requiring more frequent surveys for newly enrolled hospice and home health programs or those who have changed ownership/billing, increasing penalties for failing to meet quality reporting requirements, and more stringent enrollment screening for those identified as high risk of fraud.

The bill would strengthen accountability for accrediting organizations by establishing higher standards for survey procedures and training, new beneficiary notification requirements, and requiring annual reporting to Congress on the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) enforcement actions and fraud trends.

BOTTOM LINE

Congress must protect patients, families, and legitimate providers from fraud and abuse by enacting targeted, risk-based enforcement methods to strengthen enrollment screening and program integrity. We urge lawmakers to support and pass H.R. 8883.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
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