



Nebraska Medical Association

Advocating for Physicians and the
Health of all Nebraskans

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Nebraska Medical Association Urges Congress to Support Increased Competition, Transparency in Health Care

Nebraska Medical Association made the following statement in support of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Health Subcommittee hearing on transparency and competition.

Nebraska's physicians commend the U.S. House of Representatives Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Health's for its hearing today to explore legislative solutions for increased competition, transparency and choice in our health care system.

"Misguided policies have contributed to a decade-long trend of widespread consolidation throughout the health care system.

"Patient-centered healthcare demands that Nebraska's patients have choice of who directs their care and where they receive it, based on quality and cost of services. This requires a large dose of competition and transparency that does not exist today. Supporting H.R. 977 will end the misguided federal policy restricting physicians from owning and operating hospitals. Lifting this moratorium will allow physicians to invest in their communities and offer our state's patients the choice of physician-directed care.

"Getting to greater competition and transparency also necessitates site neutral payment policies to ensure that Nebraskans receive care in the most efficient, cost-effective setting, which is often the physician's office. Medicare's payment disparity favoring services delivered in a hospital-owned setting, coupled with inadequate Medicare physician payment updates to adjust for inflation, have made it difficult for many physicians to sustain their practices.

Nebraska's physicians support legislation that stands up for physician-led health care, giving patients lower costs, higher quality and more choice in their care."

###

About Nebraska Medical Association

The Nebraska Medical Association was founded in 1868, and represents nearly 3,000 active and retired physicians, residents, and medical students from across the state of Nebraska. Our mission is to serve physician members by advocacy for the medical profession, for patients and the health of all Nebraskans.

1045 Lincoln Mall, Ste. 200, Lincoln, NE 68508

P: 402 474 4472 + F: 402 474 2198 + www.NebMed.org