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U.S. House of
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2311 Cannon House Office
Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adrian Smith
U.S. House of
Representatives
502 Cannon House Office
Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: *PI Post Acute Access Act, H.R. 3017*

Dear Representatives Matsui and Smith:

I write on behalf of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) to express support for **H.R. 3017, the *PI Post Acute Access Act***. AAAAI appreciates that your legislation would address a gap in access to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) treatment for Medicare beneficiaries with primary immunodeficiencies (PI) undergoing rehabilitation at skilled nursing facilities (SNF).

Established in 1943, the AAAAI is a professional organization with over 7,000 members in the United States, Canada and 72 other countries. This membership includes allergist/immunologists, other medical specialists, allied health, and related healthcare professionals – all with a special interest in the research and treatment of patients with allergic and immunological diseases.

Our members are involved in the treatment of individuals with PI diseases – a group of more than 300 genetic or intrinsic disorders in which part of the body's immune system is missing or does not function properly. Infusions of IVIG replacement therapy provide antibody replacement for patients with PI diseases.

At the end of last year, Congress enacted meaningful reforms to establish a permanent Medicare IVIG benefit for in-home infusions. While this was a significant step in ensuring PI patients have continued access to IVIG treatments at home, current billing models restrict Medicare beneficiary access to IVIG treatments at SNFs. Importantly, the ***PI Post Acute Access Act*** would expand access to these essential treatments for Medicare beneficiaries at SNFs by allowing Medicare to bill separately for IVIG treatments

at these facilities. Patients living with PI diseases should be able to access needed IVIG treatments no matter the site of care.

Thank you for your work to improve the quality of life for our patients who live with PI diseases. AAAAI looks forward to working with you and your staff as issues related to allergy, asthma, and immunology arise, and would encourage you to contact Sheila Heitzig, JD, MNM, CAE, AAAAI Director of Practice and Policy, at (414) 272-6071 or sheitzig@aaaai.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan Bernstein".

Jonathan A. Bernstein, MD FAAAAI
President, American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology