

2023 - 2024 Board of Directors

President Jonathan A. Bernstein, MD, FAAAAI University of Cincinnati College of Medicine Bernstein Allergy Group and Clinical Research Center Cincinnati, OH

President-Elect Paul V. Williams, MD, FAAAAI University of Washington School of Medicine Northwest Asthma & Allergy Center Seattle, WA

Secretary-Treasurer Frank S. Virant, MD, FAAAAI Northwest Asthma & Allergy Center Seattle, WA

Immediate Past-President David A. Khan, MD, FAAAAI University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Dallas, TX

At-Large Executive Committee Member Tamara T. Perry, MD, FAAAAI UAM5/Arkansas Children's Hospital Little Rock, AR

At-Large Members Stuart L. Abramson, MD, PhD, AE-C, FAAAAI Shannon Medical Center/Shannon Clinic San Andelo, TX

Cem Akin, MD, PhD, FAAAAI University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

Leonard B. Bacharier, MD, FAAAAI Vanderbilt University Medical Center Nashville, TN

Priva I. Barrsal, MD, FAAAAI Asthma and Allergy Wellness Center St. Charles, IL

Denise A. DiPrimio-Kalman, DO, FAAAAI Nemours Children's Health Wilmington, DE

Anii Nanda, MD, FAAAAI Asthma and Allergy Center Lewisville, TX

Anna H. Nowak-Wegrzyn, MD, PhD, FAAAAI NYU Grossman School of Medicine New York, NY

Wanda Phipatanakul, MD, MS, FAAAAI Boston Children's Hospital Harvard Medical School Boston, MA

Thanal Pongdee, MD, FAAAAI Mayo Clínic Rochester, MN

Rebecca Scherzer, MD, FAAAAI Nationwide Children's Hospital Columbus, OH

Marcus S. Shaker, MD, MS, FAAAAI Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center Lebanon, NH

Executive Vice President Thomas A. Fleisher, MD, FAAAAI

Executive Director Rebecca Brandt, CAE

Executive Director Emeritus Kay Whalen, MBA, CAE

June 29, 2023

The Honorable Brad Wenstrup U.S. House of Representatives 2335 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer **U.S. House of Representatives** 1111 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

RE: Chronic Disease Flexible Coverage Act (H.R.3800)

Dear Representatives Wenstrup and Blumenauer:

I write on behalf of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) to thank you for your introduction of H.R.3800, the Chronic Disease Flexible Coverage Act. AAAAI also appreciates the House Committee on Ways and Means advancing the legislation, which would expand chronic disease management flexibilities, including incentives for coverage of inhalers for patients with asthma, under highdeductible health plans (HDHPs).

Established in 1943, AAAAI is a professional organization with more than 7,000 members in the United States, Canada and 72 other countries. This membership includes board certified 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.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately eight percent of U.S. adults and 6.5 percent of children suffer from asthma. While there is no cure for asthma, once it is properly diagnosed and a treatment plan is in place, patients can manage their condition and improve their quality of life. H.R. 3800 would give employers who offer HDHPs the flexibility to cover fourteen chronic care management services, including asthma inhalers, before an individual reaches their deductible. Coverage of inhalers before an individual reaches their deductible would allow patients to better afford treatment of asthma - preventing adverse health outcomes.

The AAAAI looks forward to working with you to advance this important legislation. Please 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,

mathan Sunstein

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