

January 31, 2022

The Honorable Cathy McMorris
Rodgers, Chair
Energy and Commerce Committee
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Energy and Commerce Committee
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman McMorris Rodgers and Ranking Member Pallone:

The Autism Society of America writes to thank you for introducing the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act. This bill prohibits all federal health care programs, such as Medicaid, from using quality-adjusted-life-years (QALYs).

The Autism Society is the nation's oldest and largest grassroots organization representing individuals with Autism and their families.

QALYs are used by federal healthcare programs to calculate the costs of treatments or medications covered by insurance. If someone has pre-existing health conditions, they are given a QALY of a lesser value compared to someone without any health conditions, thereby covering less of the treatment. The use of QALYs discriminates against people with Autism and other disabilities by putting a lower numerical value on an individual's life. It is critical that Congress act to ban the use of QALYs for all federal healthcare programs.

We appreciate your leadership on this issue and pledge our support to help move this bill through this Session of Congress. Please contact me or Kim Musheno, Vice President of Public Policy at the Autism Society of America (kmusheno@autism-society.org or) if you have any questions or to follow up on this letter.

Sincerely,



Christopher Banks
President/Chief Executive Officer
cbanks@autism-society.org