



May 20, 2026

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Neal,

On behalf of LeadingAge, the association of nonprofit and mission driven aging services providers including home health and hospice, please accept this letter for the record regarding **H.R. 8883, the Protecting Seniors and Stopping Fraudsters Act**.

Bad actors and fraudulent activities in the home health and hospice sector that exploit and game Medicare and Medicaid programs must be stopped. Abusing benefits created to serve the homebound and people in their final stage of life is inexcusable.

Our position on approach is clear: we support targeted program integrity efforts that root out bad actors and ensure legitimate providers have the resources they need to deliver quality care.

Representative Beth Van Duyne's "*Protecting Seniors and Stopping Fraudsters Act*" is an important step in achieving these goals. We support this bill and appreciate Representative Van Duyne's leadership on this critical issue.

Many of the legislation's specifics, including increasing surveys and revalidations for high-risk providers, tightening enrollment oversight, enhancing beneficiary protections and escalating payment penalties for non-reporting of quality data, are reforms that LeadingAge has recommended and pursued for years. Some were in our [March 2026 response](#) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' CRUSH (Comprehensive Regulations to Uncover Suspicious Healthcare) RFI and the [34 hospice program integrity recommendations](#) that we submitted to CMS and Congress in 2023. We are pleased to see action on these recommendations.

More work is needed to strengthen beneficiaries' ability to access quality providers. Payment reforms in both the hospice and home health benefits are crucial to increase access, ensure adequate payment for providers, create incentives connecting payment to quality care, and disincentivize bad actors from committing fraud.

In addition, changes are needed to enhance what is offered to beneficiaries through home health and hospice care. Additional respite options for beneficiaries both at home and inpatient, increased access to home health aide services, and promoting timely access to care through payment for high cost palliative therapies in hospice and modifying the definitions of skilled and homebound in home health are some examples of key reforms that would ensure support is available wherever someone calls home.

We look forward to continuing to collaborate with Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Neal, Representative Van Duyne, Representative Sánchez, and the rest of the Committee who are all committed to stopping fraud, improving these important benefits, and ensuring their future viability for patients and families.

## **About LeadingAge:**

We represent more than 5,300 nonprofit and mission-driven aging services providers serving older adults and touching millions of lives every day. From our national headquarters in Washington, DC, and in collaboration with our state partners representing members active in 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, we use advocacy, education, applied research, and community-building to make America a better place to grow old. Our membership encompasses the entire continuum of aging services, including skilled nursing, assisted living, memory care, affordable housing, retirement communities, adult day programs, hospice, Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), and home-based care. We bring together the most inventive minds in the field to lead and innovate solutions that support older adults wherever they call home. For more information, visit [leadingage.org](https://www.leadingage.org).