



The Honorable Michael Burgess
Chairman
Energy and Commerce Committee
Health Subcommittee
Room 2125 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gene Green
Ranking Member
Energy and Commerce Committee
Health Subcommittee
Room 2125 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

June 13th, 2017

Dear Chairman Burgess and Ranking Member Green,

We are writing on behalf of the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO). AAPCHO is a national not-for-profit association of 32 community-based health care organizations, 27 of which are Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). AAPCHO members are dedicated to promoting advocacy, collaboration, and leadership to improve the health status and access of medically underserved AA&NHPIs in the U.S., its territories, and its freely associated states. We thank the Committee for holding this hearing, and would like the Committee to know that we fully support the need to fund the health center program, and that Medicaid payments are an integral part to service delivery.

AAPCHO's members serve about 500,000 individuals across the country, in 12 states. AAPCHO members focus on providing services that are uniquely appropriate to their patient populations including: comprehensive primary medical care, culturally and linguistically appropriate health care services, and non-clinical supportive enabling services such as interpretation and case management. On average, AAPCHO's health centers serve a much higher rate of patients who are Limited English Proficient (LEP) (52% vs. 23%), with some health centers serving as many as 100% LEP individuals. AAPCHO health center patients serve a high percentage of complex patients, including those with chronic conditions such as diabetes and hepatitis B, who also may need support with social conditions (e.g. transportation to/from center).

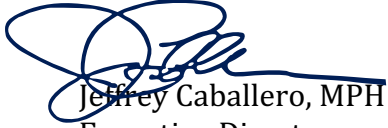
AAPCHO supports the testimony provided by the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). We believe that health centers can effectively provide the breadth of services that underserved communities need because of many factors. Health centers are able to develop and modify service delivery practices that are complementary to their patient populations and their needs.

Medicaid is integral to the success of the health center. Health centers are not able to support the number of essential services that they provide without the foundation of revenue that Medicaid provides, as Medicaid payments are the highest source of revenue for the average health center. Many of AAPCHO's members rely on Medicaid, as well as on the

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The three sources of funding help to sustain and support care, leaving AAPCHO members to work from other revenues to support the large number of enabling services necessary to provide (e.g. housing support, transportation).

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact AAPCHO's Director of Policy and Advocacy at isha@aapcho.org.

Thank you,



Jeffrey Caballero, MPH
Executive Director