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June 23, 2023

Tracy Watts
Senior Partner, US Leader for Health Care Policy
Mercer
1050 Connecticut Ave., NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mrs. Watts:

Thank you again for testifying at the April 26 Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions hearing on "Reducing Health Care Costs for Working Americans and Their Families."

Enclosed are additional questions submitted by Subcommittee members following the hearing. Please provide written responses no later than July 14, 2023, for inclusion in the hearing record. Responses should be sent to Michael Davis of the Committee staff who can be contacted at (202) 225-7101.

We appreciate your contribution to the work of the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Good".

Bob Good
Chairman
Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions

Enclosure

Questions for the Record for Tracy Watts

HELP Subcommittee Hearing “Reducing Health Care Costs for Working Americans and Their Families” April 26, 2023 10:15 a.m.

Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC)

1. What actions have employers taken to comply with the *Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act*?
2. What actions have employers taken to enhance access to mental health benefits for employees and their families? What have the results been?
3. Would allowing employers to offer telehealth as an excepted benefit result in employers substituting telehealth-only benefits for a comprehensive health plan? Why or why not?
4. At the April 26 hearing, one of the witnesses expressed concerns that individuals would confuse telehealth-only benefits with major medical coverage. Do you share this concern? Why or why not?

Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI)

1. Increased access to telehealth has transformed the way mental health professionals deliver care. How can establishing a stand-alone telehealth excepted benefit through ERISA help workers struggling with mental health conditions? Why is it important to act in light of the public health emergency ending on May 11?

Rep. Susan Wild (D-PA)

1. Hospitals and hospital outpatient departments (HOPDs) play a critical role in providing many communities- including my own- with reliable access to high-quality health care. What is your response to concerns that site-neutral payment policies could lead to hospital closures and reduce patients’ ability to consistently access high-quality health care services, especially in rural communities?

Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA)

1. Mrs. Watts, the presentation accompanying your testimony discusses an issue that I know a lot of employers are taking very seriously – health equity.
 - a. Can you discuss why it’s so important for employer-sponsored health plans to recognize and address the diverse needs of populations, particularly people of color and members of the LGBTQ population?

- b. Can you discuss the importance of comprehensive reproductive health care for women, particularly women of color?