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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
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May 28, 2024

Dr. Adam Bruggeman, M.D.
Orthopedic Surgeon
Texas Spine Care
3619 Paesanos Parkway, Suite 302
San Antonio, TX 78231

Dear Dr. Bruggeman:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Health on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, to testify at the hearing entitled “Examining Health Sector Cybersecurity in the Wake of the Change Healthcare Attack.”

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Tuesday, June 11, 2024. Your responses should be mailed to Emma Schultheis, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Emma.Schultheis@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Brett Guthrie
Chair
Subcommittee on Health

cc: Anna Eshoo, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health

Attachment

Attachment — Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Nanette Barragán

1. Unlike large hospital systems that operate with large financial reserves, physician practices operate on slim margins – especially those who serve our most vulnerable including pediatricians and Medicaid safety net physicians. After the cyberattack, many practices were unable to meet payroll for their operations and nursing staff, pay rent, or order new supplies. What recommendations do you have to support physicians who are still struggling to bounce back?
2. I am concerned that in the aftermath of the recent cyberattack, patients may receive incorrect bills that show they are liable for a larger payment than is appropriate. What steps are being taken to process claims correctly and efficiently?
3. The systems to facilitate prior authorization requests have been disrupted as a result of the Change Healthcare cyberattack. How has this disruption to prior authorization impacted patients' ability to receive timely care?