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July 26, 2017

The Honorable Joe Barton
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
2052 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Barton and Representative Castor:

I am writing on behalf of Vizient, Inc. to offer our support for the "The Advancing Care for Exceptional Kids Act of 2017" (H.R. 3325 – ACE Kids Act). We believe that protecting and strengthening care for our most vulnerable populations are essential steps in the pursuit of a better, more patient-centered health care delivery system. The ACE Kids Act represents meaningful, bipartisan work to improve the Medicaid program for children with medical complexity, and Vizient applauds the legislation.

Vizient is the nation's largest health care performance improvement company. We serve a diverse membership that includes academic medical centers, pediatric facilities, community hospitals, integrated healthcare delivery networks and non-acute health care providers. Our headquarters are in Irving, Texas, with locations in Chicago, Washington, D.C., and other cities across the country.

Our members have been on the front lines of delivery and clinical reforms, investing in and committed to efforts to fundamentally improve how care is delivered. These organizations provide critical health care services for their communities. Vizient strongly encourages legislation that protects and advances delivery system reforms that improve the quality of care, reduce expenses to Medicaid, and save patient lives. The ACE Kids Act would help achieve this triple-aim strategy by expanding access to patient-centered, pediatric-focused coordinated care for children with medical complexity.

Vizient believes that empowering Americans through health coverage is critical to success in care. The ACE Kids Act makes sure that kids can access the coordinated care they need – across multiple providers and services. It reduces the burden on their families and addresses existing challenges in Medicaid coverage. On behalf of our members, we applaud this bipartisan legislation that takes a common sense approach to improving care for children who need it most.

We thank you for your commitment to improving patient care for children with complex medical issues and their families and are pleased to offer our endorsement of the ACE Kids Act.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com or 202-354-2607 if you have any questions about Vizient or if there is any way we can be of assistance in supporting this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shoshana Krilow".

Shoshana Krilow
Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations