



**June 20, 2019**

The Honorable Judy Chu  
2423 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Buddy Carter  
2432 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eliot Engel  
2426 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Chu, Engel and Carter,

As members of the Friends of NQF, we applaud your leadership and introduction of bipartisan legislation (H.R. 3031) continuing federal funding for the National Quality Forum.

Continued federal funding for the National Quality Forum (NQF) is foundational to efforts to achieve a cost-efficient, high-quality, value-based healthcare system that ensures the best care for Americans and the best use of the nation's healthcare dollars. The introduction of your bill to reauthorize federal funding for NQF helps ensure that quality measures used in care delivery and payment reform continue to be reliable, effective and drive measurable improvements for our nation's Medicare beneficiaries.

During the continued legislative process, we encourage the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means to consider other changes to modernize and enhance the impact of NQF's contribution to our nation's continued commitment to value-based care. These changes would include:

- Improve public transparency and accountability regarding the use and implementation of measures, enabling public input into emerging Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation models;
- Advance quality improvement reforms that reduce administrative burden and foster alignment across programs and payers; and,
- Advance national health priorities and high-value, high-impact quality measures through innovations in measurement.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to NQF. Continuing the nation's work to advance quality, safety, and cost-effective healthcare is one objective we all share.

Sincerely,

**The Friends of NQF**

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy  
AdvaMed  
Adventist Health System  
AMDA - The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine

America's Physician Groups  
American Academy of Dermatology  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
American Association for Physician Leadership  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Board of Medical Specialties  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Cardiology  
American College of Emergency Physicians  
American College of Medical Quality  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Surgeons  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Health Quality Association  
American Healthcare Association  
American Heart Association/American Stroke Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons  
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists  
American Society of Nephrology  
America's Essential Hospitals  
America's Health Insurance Plans  
AmeriHealth Caritas  
AMGA  
Anthem, Inc.  
Association for Community Affiliated Plans  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses  
BD  
bioMérieux  
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

CareFirst BlueCross Blue Shield  
Carilion Clinic  
Center to Advance Palliative Care  
Children's National Medical Center  
Coalition to Transform Advanced Care  
Compassus  
Connecticut Center for Patient Safety  
Consumer Coalition for Quality Health Care  
Council of Medical Specialty Societies  
Dental Quality Alliance  
eHealth Initiative  
ElevatingHOME  
Eli Lilly and Company  
Federation of American Hospitals  
Focus on Therapeutic Outcomes  
Fresenius Medical Care North America  
Geisinger  
Genetech, Inc.  
GlaxoSmithKline  
Greater Philadelphia Business Coalition on Health  
Harborview Medical Center  
HCA  
Health Action Council  
Health Care Service Corporation  
Healthcare Leadership Council  
HealthPartners, Inc., Bloomington Minnesota  
HealthSouth  
Henry Ford Health System  
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association  
Human Services Research Institute  
Humana  
Informed Patient Institute  
Integrated Healthcare Association  
Intermountain Healthcare  
Institute for Healthcare Improvement  
Johns Hopkins Health System  
Johns Hopkins Medicine Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality  
Johnson & Johnson Health Care Systems, Inc.  
Kaiser Permanente  
Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA  
Medicare Rights Center  
Memorial Hermann Health System  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
Memphis Business Group on Health  
Merck & Co.  
Minnesota Health Action Group

MN Community Measurement  
National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions  
National Association of ACOs  
National Association of Behavioral Healthcare  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Business Group on Health  
National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care  
National Committee for Quality Assurance  
National Council on Aging  
National Health Policy Group  
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization  
National Partnership for Hospice Innovation  
National Partnership for Women and Families  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel  
National Rural Health Association  
National Sleep Foundation  
Nemours Children's Health System  
Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement  
New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute  
New Jersey Hospital Association  
Next Wave, Inc.  
NICHE – Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders  
Northeast Business Group on Health  
Pacific Business Group on Health  
Partners HealthCare  
Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative  
PCPI Foundation  
PFCC Partners  
Pharmacy Quality Alliance  
PhRMA  
Planetree International  
Premier, Inc.  
Press Ganey  
Quality Insights, Inc.  
SNP Alliance  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society of Hospital Medicine  
Society of Interventional Radiology  
Society of Thoracic Surgeons  
St. Louis Area Business Health Coalition  
Suncoast RHIO  
Tenet Healthcare, Inc.  
The Alliance  
The Council on Quality and Leadership  
The Health Collaborative

The Joint Commission  
The Leapfrog Group  
University of Pennsylvania Health System Penn Medicine  
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Vizient, Inc.  
Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality  
Women's Care Florida

CC:

Chairman Richard Neal  
House Committee on Ways and Means  
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Kevin Brady  
House Committee on Ways and Means  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr.  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Greg Walden  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Washington, DC 20515