

September 30, 2024

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo,

Our allied organizations write to urge you to markup the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act ([S. 2407](#)) and to include the bill in any end-of-the-year health package.

This summer, the Ways and Means Committee took an important step forward to close gaps in coverage and ensure older Americans can maintain access to lifesaving obesity treatments when enrolling in Medicare. It is crucial to millions of Americans that Congress keeps this momentum going and provide Medicare coverage of obesity treatment.

In 2013, the American Medical Association recognized obesity as a complex chronic disease. Today, more than two in five American adults live with obesity and according to a 2019 study by [the New England Journal of Medicine](#) nearly one in two adults will have obesity by 2030. These rates are higher for communities of color, with almost half of Black and Latino adults suffering from obesity. Obesity has become an epidemic in the United States; however, it does not have to be this way. Through passing the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act (TROA), Congress will change the arc of this epidemic by removing barriers to comprehensive treatment and care.

This is a pivotal moment to demonstrate Congress's commitment to addressing the obesity epidemic by providing Medicare beneficiaries access to the clinically established standard of care. We ask you and members of the Senate Finance Committee to please consider this a priority for any end of the year healthcare package. The time for obesity care is now.

Sincerely,

American Association of Clinical Endocrinology (AACE)

American Diabetes Association

American Kidney Fund

American Liver Foundation

Bone Health and Osteoporosis Foundation

Choose Healthy Life  
Color of Gastrointestinal Illnesses  
Defeat Malnutrition Today  
Diabetes Leadership Council  
Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition  
Gerontological Society of America  
Global Liver Institute  
Health Equity Coalition for Chronic Disease  
HealthyWomen  
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)  
Lupus Foundation of America  
MANA, A National Latina Organization  
Movement is Life  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses  
National Black Leadership Commission on Health  
National Council on Aging  
National Hispanic Council on Aging  
National Hispanic Health Foundation  
National Menopause Foundation  
National Minority Quality Forum  
Obesity Action Coalition  
Obesity Care Advocacy Network  
Obesity Medicine Association  
WeightWatchers

Cc: Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Members of the Committee

