July 16, 2019

The Honorable Lamar Alexander   The Honorable Patty Murray
Chairman   Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Health, Education,   Senate Committee on Health, Education,
Labor and Pensions   Labor and Pensions
Washington, D.C. 20510   Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

On behalf of the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR), I write in support of S. 1895, the "Lower Health Care Costs Act" and urge members of the Senate to vote "YES" when the legislation is called for a vote.

CUPA-HR serves as the voice of human resources (HR) in higher education, representing more than 31,000 human resources professionals and other higher education leaders at over 2,000 colleges and universities across the country. Its membership includes 93 percent of all U.S. doctoral institutions, 79 percent of all master's institutions, 58 percent of all bachelor's institutions and over 500 two-year and specialized institutions. Higher education employs over 3.9 million workers nationwide, with colleges and universities in all 50 states.

CUPA-HR members collectively provide comprehensive health benefits to millions of employees, retirees, students and their families. As such, CUPA-HR supports and encourages employer efforts to provide benefits that enhance employees' health and wellness, retirement security, job flexibility, skills development, work-life balance, recruitment and retention. S. 1895 is critical to employers' efforts to provide their employees with affordable health benefits as the legislation, among other things, would end surprise medical billing, reduce the costs of prescription drugs, and improve transparency in the health care system.

For these reasons we urge the full Senate to vote "yes" on this legislation. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

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