



December 11, 2019

The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester
United States House of Representatives
1519 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis
United States House of Representatives
2227 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Blunt Rochester and Bilirakis –

Aligning for Health thanks you for introducing H.R. 4621, the *Collecting and Analyzing Resources Integral and Necessary for Guidance (CARING) for Social Determinants Act of 2019*, which would require the Department of Health and Human Services to provide guidance to states to address social determinants of health under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.

Aligning for Health is a coalition of 15 healthcare organizations who recognize that health and wellbeing are determined by many important factors in a person’s life. There is a significant body of evidence finding that economic and social conditions such as safe and affordable housing, sufficient nutrition, access to transportation, and others, have a powerful impact on individual and population health outcomes, as well as medical costs.

We agree additional clarity on how states can address social determinants through Medicaid and CHIP is crucial to advancing this complex and crucial work. Additionally, providing states with examples of best practices and tools will help states to understand possible avenues for success.

We look forward to working with you to advance this important bipartisan legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista Brobac". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chair, Aligning for Health