

Representative Cheri Bustos (D-IL) 370 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Representative Tom Cole (R-OK) 2207 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Representative Jim McGovern (D-MA) 1233 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Representative Markwayne Mullin (R-OK) 2421 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Bustos, Cole, McGovern, and Mullin

The National Alliance to impact the Social Determinants of Health (NASDOH) writes to express support for your bill <u>H.R. 2503</u> – The Social Determinants Accelerator Act of 2021, which would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish an interagency council on social determinants of health and make \$25 million available to state, local, and tribal governments to develop plans to target social determinants that are negatively impacting high need patients.

The National Alliance to impact the Social Determinants of Health (<u>NASDOH</u>) is a group of stakeholders working to systematically and pragmatically build a common understanding of the importance of addressing social needs as part of an overall approach to health improvement and economic vitality of families and communities. The Alliance brings together health care, public health and social services expertise, local community experience, community-convening competence, business and financial insight, technology innovation, data and analytics competencies, and policy and advocacy acumen to assess and address current regulatory frameworks, funding environments and opportunities, and practical challenges to implementing and sustaining social determinants of health efforts. We seek to make a material improvement in the health of individuals and communities and, through multi-sector partnerships within the national system of health, to advance holistic, value-based, person-centered health care that can successfully impact the social determinants of health.

NASDOH supports efforts to help states and communities better leverage programs and authorities to address the social determinants of health and particularly supports the funding and technical assistance H.R. 2503 will provide to devise approaches to coordinate services and improve outcomes and cost-effectiveness in the Medicaid program. We have also <u>advocated</u> for cross-agency leadership and coordination to address social determinants of health and are pleased to see the creation of a coordination council for this purpose in your bill.

We appreciate your focus on the social determinants of health and look forward to future legislative action on this topic from you and other members of Congress. For more information on NASDOH and our members, please visit our website at <u>www.nasdoh.org</u> or contact Sara Singleton at Sara.Singleton@leavittpartners.com

Sincerely,

Sara Singleton Principal, Leavitt Partners and Advisor to NASDOH