July 14, 2021

Xavier Becerra
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra:

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Administrator
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra, Administrator Brooks-LaSure and Director Tsai:

I am writing on behalf of our membership to seek your support and expedient approval of Texas' five Directed Payment Program preprints currently under review at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. These programs provide funding to support Texas' delivery system and are part of the state's approach to...
provide financial stability to hospitals during a time of unprecedented uncertainty and change.

We appreciate the work of CMS staff in diligently working with Texas on the proposals and ask that you expeditiously approve the programs designed to transition funding from the Delivery System Reform Incentive Program as it terminates.

We appreciate your service and your work and look forward to being of any assistance. Please reach out if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,


Maureen Milligan, PhD, MPAff.
President and CEO
Teaching Hospitals of Texas.

*THOT is the principal voice and advocate for health systems that teach the next generation of health professionals and who are united in their commitment to support policies and funding that will ensure healthcare access to all Texans.*

*Our members share three commitments:*

- Supporting access to care for all in our communities, with a special focus on vulnerable populations;
- Providing and coordinating essential community health services, such as trauma and disaster management; and
- Preparing for the future by training tomorrow’s healthcare providers and supporting health research and healthcare transformation.

*THOT’s members include Texas’ largest urban public hospitals and health systems; four University of Texas health science center hospital systems; mid-size hospital districts and related non-profit health systems.*