

November 7, 2024

**AFFHP STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CASSIDY-HASSAN
POLICY FRAMEWORK ON SITE-NEUTRAL REFORM TO LOWER HEALTH CARE COSTS**

The Alliance for Fair Health Pricing applauds Senators Cassidy and Hassan for their recently released bipartisan legislative framework to advance site-neutral payment reform. Their framework is an important step toward lowering health care costs and protecting patients from being charged more for services simply based on where they receive them.

As large hospitals and health systems buy up physicians' offices, they rebrand them as hospital outpatient facilities, and charge patients higher prices for the same routine services, even when nothing has changed except the name on the door. The AFFHP strongly supports policies to advance comprehensive site-neutral payments for health care services that are frequently and safely provided in a doctor's office, regardless of where care is provided. Site-neutral payments are essential to address unfair hospital billing practices and mitigate the incentives for hospitals to acquire physician practices, which further consolidates the health care market and drives up prices.

Comprehensive site-neutral reform will lower health care costs for patients, employers, and taxpayers—as well as the Medicare program. We stand ready to support bipartisan efforts to address site-based payment disparities and will continue to advocate for these policies to be enacted into law.

Sincerely,

American Benefits Council

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Arnold Ventures

Purchaser Business Group on Health

The ERISA Industry Committee

Small Business Majority

Families USA