

February 4, 2022

The Honorable Donald Norcross
2427 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Norcross:

I am writing today to offer [Vizient's](#) support for the Opioid Treatment Access Act of 2022 (H.R.6279). Your legislation would take steps to make permanent certain flexibilities provided during the COVID-19 pandemic surrounding patient access to methadone.

Vizient, Inc. is the nation's largest health care performance improvement company. Vizient provides solutions and services that improve the delivery of high-value care by aligning cost, quality and market performance for more than 50% of the nation's acute care providers, which includes 95% of the nation's academic medical centers, and more than 20% of ambulatory providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics, and advisory services, as well as a contract portfolio that represents more than \$100 billion in annual purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs. Headquartered in Irving, Texas, Vizient has offices throughout the United States.

Vizient is proud to offer our support for your important legislation. The Opioid Treatment Access Act of 2022 would make adjustments to current law, which generally requires patients taking methadone to visit Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) daily to receive the medication, potentially hindering access to much needed medication. Under current COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) flexibilities, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is permitting certain patients to access up to 28 days of take-home methadone doses for opioid use disorder – your legislation would continue several of these flexibilities and direct SAMHSA to study the impact of the flexibilities that were provided during the PHE. This SAMHSA study will allow stakeholders to assess the effectiveness of recent policy changes and share those findings. The bill would also allow pharmacies to dispense take-home methadone so patients can obtain their medication at a more convenient location on a less frequent basis.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me at shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com or 202-354-2607 if you have any questions about Vizient or if there is any way we can be of assistance in advancing this bill.

Sincerely,



Shoshana Krilow
Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations