

June 8, 2022

The Honorable Madeleine Dean
120 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Larry Bucshon, M.D.
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Dean and Congressman Bucshon,

On behalf of Vizient, Inc., and the healthcare provider members we serve, I am writing to offer our endorsement for the Safety from Violence for Healthcare Employees (SAVE) Act. Workplace violence has been a longstanding concern for hospitals and their workforce. Your important legislation would take steps to protect healthcare workers from intimidation, physical abuse and violence by appropriately increasing the severity of penalties for individuals who commit such violent acts.

Vizient, Inc. is the nation's largest healthcare performance improvement company. We provide solutions and services that improve the delivery of high-value care by aligning cost, quality and market performance for more than half of the nation's health care providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics, advisory services, and a contract portfolio representing more than \$130 billion in annual member purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs.

The incidence of individuals committing acts of intimidation and physical violence against healthcare workers has been a significant and growing problem. Hospitals have undertaken concerted efforts to protect employees and curb such acts, but violence against healthcare workers has increased in frequency and severity during the COVID-19 pandemic. The growing toll of these incidents has a severe and negative impact on the mental and physical wellbeing of doctors, nurses and other providers while disrupting their ability to provide care to patients.

Your important legislation would take the necessary steps to curb such violence by providing for enhanced penalties for intimidation and acts of violence that interfere with hospital personnel in the performance of their duties. It would also bolster penalties for such acts if they lead to bodily harm or take place during a declared federal emergency. Finally, the bill also provides federal grant resources to hospitals for investments in safety and security of their workforce and requires annual reports on how those investments are being deployed. These steps would offer important tools to deter such violence and provide resources to support hospitals and healthcare workers.

We thank you for your leadership on this important legislation and are pleased to offer our support. Please contact me at shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com or (202) 354-2607 if you have any questions or if there is any way we can be of assistance in getting this important legislation signed into law.

Sincerely,



Shoshana Krilow
Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations