DATE

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue S.W. Washington, D.C., 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra,

I am a doctor of optometry practicing in (enter state). I am writing to you today to raise concerns with the regulations implementing the No Surprises Act requirement to provide Good Faith Estimates (GFE) to uninsured or self-pay patients.

I recognize fully the benefits that can be gained when patients have access to accurate information to inform their health care choices. However, I am concerned that during the ongoing pandemic the ability for health care providers to fully meet the requirements outlined in the rule will be a significant challenge and added administrative burden. Health care practices continue to face staffing shortages and hiring difficulties which can complicate a practice’s ability to implement new regulatory requirements. There are also numerous logistical questions and concerns that have arisen following the release of the rules. I urge you to delay implementation of this rule for 2022 and work with the health care provider community to meet the intended goals of the No Surprises Act.

Sincerely,