



September 20, 2022

The Honorable Michael Burgess, M.D.
2161 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Angie Craig
2442 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Burgess and Representative Craig:

The Joint Commission commends your efforts to improve federal cybersecurity in the health care sector by introducing the Protecting and Transforming Cyber Health Care Act, H.R. 7084.

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations (HCOs) and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. An independent, not-for-profit organization with a global presence, The Joint Commission has programs that accredit or certify more than 25,000 HCOs and programs in the United States. The Joint Commission evaluates across the continuum of care, including most of the nation's hospitals. Although accreditation is voluntary, a variety of federal and state government regulatory bodies, including the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, recognize The Joint Commission's decisions and findings for Medicare or licensure purposes.

The Joint Commission recognizes that cybersecurity is a critical responsibility for HCOs, as any breach could jeopardize the delivery of care, patient privacy, and/or safety. The growing number of cyberthreats requires an all-hands approach across the health care sector, including hospitals, medical device manufacturers, electronic health record vendors, and many others. The Joint Commission supports your efforts to ensure cybersecurity throughout the lifecycle of a medical device, including the requirement to have a plan to monitor devices for cybersecurity vulnerabilities post-market. We particularly support provisions related to making updates and patches available for medical devices throughout the lifecycle, including out of the normal cycle if critical risks arise. We believe these provisions will help mitigate some of the cyberthreat vulnerabilities and protect patient safety.

The Joint Commission is pleased to answer any questions you may have regarding our efforts to share cybersecurity resources and our support for this legislation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff: Tim Jones, Senior Associate Director, Federal Relations at tjones2@jointcommission.org or 202-783-6655; or Kathryn Spates, Executive Director, Federal Relations at kspates@jointcommission.org or 202-783-6655.

Sincerely,

Margaret VanAmringe, MHS
Executive Vice President for Public Policy and Government Relations