

Contact: Amanda H. Beck (202) 789-8604 abeck@hrpolicy.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 8, 2021

## America's Large Employers Applaud Biden Administration Rule That Will Protect Patients and Employees from Surprise Medical Bills

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – HR Policy Association applauds the Biden Administration's latest <u>interim final</u> rule implementing the No Surprises Act.

HR Policy Association represents chief human resource officers of more than 390 of the largest employers in the United States. Collectively, their companies provide health care coverage to over 21 million employees and dependents in the United States and spend more than \$120 billion annually on health care benefits and related taxes. The American Health Policy Institute, which was created by the Association, serves to examine the challenges employers face in providing health care to their employees and recommends policy solutions to promote the provision of affordable, high-quality, employer-based health care.

Mark Wilson, President and CEO of the American Health Policy Institute and Vice President, Health and Employment policy for HR Policy Association said, "The No Surprises Act is one of the strongest consumer protection laws Congress has enacted over the past ten years and the interim final rule faithfully implements Congress' intent to reduce unnecessary health care costs, encourage providers and payers to reach reimbursement agreements on their own, and protects employees from higher premium costs that might otherwise occur. We look forward to working with the Administration to finalize this rule and implement additional provisions."

HR Policy Association formally submitted comments that said, in part: "As the Administration proceeds with the rulemaking, two broad objectives should guide the agencies' rulemaking decisions: 1) minimize administrative costs associated with the independent dispute resolution (IDR) process; and 2) ensure the rule reduces the cost of health care for employers, employees and their dependents. As written by Congress, the Congressional Budget Office estimated the *No Surprises Act* would reduce health care costs. The regulations should be drafted and finalized to achieve those cost reductions. The Administration should also maximize transparency regarding the publication of information relating to the IDR process so the public and policymakers can identify potential problems and determine if future changes to the regulations or statute are needed."

The Association's full set of comments are here and here.

###

HR Policy Association is the lead organization representing chief human resource officers of major employers. The Association consists of more than 390 of the largest corporations doing business in the United States and globally, and these employers are represented in the organization by their most senior human resource executive. Collectively, their companies employ more than 11 million employees in the United States, over nine percent of the private sector workforce, and 20 million employees worldwide. They have a combined market capitalization of more than \$8 trillion. These senior corporate officers participate in the Association because of their commitment to improving the direction of human resource policy. Their objective is to use the combined power of the membership to act as a positive influence to better public policy, the HR marketplace, and the human resource profession. For more information visit <a href="https://www.hrpolicy.org">www.hrpolicy.org</a>.