LIVER
COALITION OF SAN DIEGO

June 8, 2021

The Honorable Richard Roth
Chair, Senate Business, Professions & Economic Development Committee
State Capitol, Room 3191
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Oppose AB 1278 Physicians and surgeons: payment or transfer of value: disclosure: notice

Dear Senator Roth:

The Liver Coalition of San Diego is a local organization formed by medical specialists, transplant surgeons, patients, caregivers and health advocates to promote liver health and meet the needs of those affected by liver disease in San Diego County. *Our mission is to save lives by improving liver health and preventing liver disease through community-based education, linkages to care, advocacy and research programs.*

Although we are supportive of AB 1278's intent to promote transparency, we feel this approach may be duplicative with current policy. This bill could also shift the focus of the patient's visit to the financials of the physician, eroding the quality of the visit.

We are not supportive of efforts that would interfere with the highly important "patient-doctor" relationship during the visit. Currently U.S. physicians spend between 13 and 28 minutes with patients during a visit. With 6 in 10 Adults in the US having a chronic disease, and 4 in 10 having two or more, this time should be for patients to ask questions about their treatment plan, medications, or general health.

Additionally, due to COVID-19 many patients have not been able to have in-person visits with their physicians. As stated above, our commitment to safeguarding this time for patients to ensure their healthcare needs are being met remains our top priority.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at 858-800-0016 or email me at terry@livercoalition.org . Thank you.

Sincerely,

Terry Cunningham
President, Board of Directors

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