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PBGH Statement on Health Care Affordability

PBGH members are very concerned about the health care affordability crisis facing employers, public sector purchasers and consumers. One of the primary causes of this crisis is the high and increasing prices charged by some large health systems, hospitals, provider groups, pharmacy benefit managers and drug manufacturers. High prices have been enabled by rapid consolidation of the health care industry and the use of anti-competitive market practices by some entities.

We applaud the <u>cross-government initiative</u> launched to inquire about transactions and business practices that may be driving the affordability crisis. In addition, we call on Congress to support this effort and consider legislation that will strengthen oversight of the health care market and ensure that healthy competition will drive improved affordability, quality and equity.