# NCOIL Health Insurance & Long-Term Care Issues Committee Interim Meeting

# Improving Affordability for Patients Model Act

Lucy Culp Vice President, State Government Affairs The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society March 14, 2025



## THE LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY (LLS)

The mission: Cure blood cancer and improve the quality of life of all patients and their families.

We fund **RESEARCH** to advance lifesaving treatments

We drive **ADVOCACY** for policies that protect patient access to lifesaving treatment

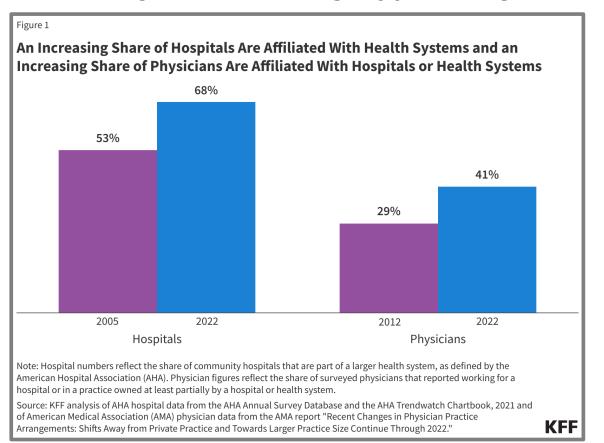
We provide patients and families with hope, guidance, education and SUPPORT



### THE COST OF CANCER CARE IS STAGGERING



# PROVIDER MARKETS HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY CONSOLIDATED OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS



#### WHAT IS A FACILITY FEE?

# FACILITY FEES DRIVE UP THE COST OF CARE FOR PATIENTS

A facility fee is a charge assessed by a healthcare provider that is separate from and in addition to charges for professional services.

- Often come as a surprise to patients.
- Frequency has increased significantly, in part due to provider consolidation.
- May make sense in some cases but not for routine doctors' visits and outside of hospitals.



#### IMPROVING AFFORDABILITY FOR PATIENT MODEL ACT

LLS is pleased to support the model act. Suggested modifications to further improve protections for patients:

- Treat telehealth visits the same as those provided in outpatient settings,
   i.e., extend facility fee protections to all services.
- Direct facility fee bills to insurance companies, rather than directly to patients.
- Ensure that provider identification numbers (NPIs) include the site of service and system information.



## **THANK YOU**

Lucy Culp

lucy.culp@lls.org

