

# NAACOS Advocacy



- Shaping federal policies to support ACOs is a core focus of NAACOS
- Advocacy efforts focus on the Administration and Congress
- NAACOS staff regularly meet with and talk to lawmakers and encourage ACOs to develop and maintain relationships with their members of Congress.

**NAACOS Take Action [center](#) makes it easy to send a message to Congress!**

# NAACOS Administration Priorities



- Implement policy changes to attract and retain more Medicare ACOs: increase shared savings rates, fix benchmarking and risk adjustment flaws, further modify and delay quality overhaul, allow more time before risk, develop a new, optional full-risk MSSP “Enhanced Plus”
- Devise a coordinated policy on model overlap that prioritizes patient attribution to the total cost of care ACO model over other APMs.
- Create stronger incentives for providers to participate in APMs, especially Advanced APMs, through QPP revisions and more.
- Improve Professional and Global options of the Direct Contracting Model to make them more attractive to historically successful ACOs

# ACO Fall Virtual Advocacy Campaign

- We have been focused on garnering support for the Value in Health Care Act and calling for action to fix the MSSP “rural glitch” benchmarking flaw.
- The timing of these visits is key for our advocacy to advance ACO issues leading up to a fall infrastructure/reconciliation package.
- Thank you to ACOs conducting virtual Hill visits.



- **ACO advocacy is critical!**
- To get involved, contact Alyssa Neumann: [aneumann@naacos.com](mailto:aneumann@naacos.com)

# NAACOS PAC

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- NAACOS has a federal political action committee (PAC), the NAACOS Action Fund
- The PAC is used for activities that NAACOS dues cannot support
- To learn more, visit [www.naacos.com/pac](http://www.naacos.com/pac)



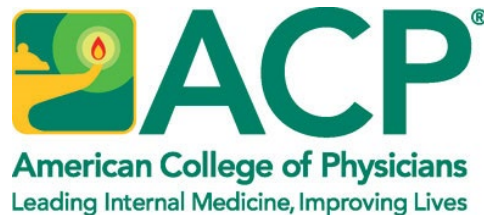
# Value in Health Care Act of 2021 (H.R. 4587)

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- “Value Act” was introduced in the House of Representatives on July 20
- Bill text is available [here](#), summary available [here](#).
- The bill supports ACOs and the shift to value-based care and payment
- Thank you to the bill sponsors: Reps. Peter Welch (D-Vt.), Suzan DelBene (D-Wash.), Darin LaHood (R-Ill.), and Brad Wenstrup (R-Ohio).
- 14 leading national healthcare stakeholder organizations sent a [letter](#) and issued a press [release](#) in support of the bill

# Value Act Supporters



# Value in Health Care Act of 2021



- Encourages participation in the Medicare Shared Savings Program by:
  - Increasing shared savings rates
  - Modifying risk adjustment
  - Eliminating high-low revenue distinction
  - Providing more time before risk is required
  - Removing ACO patients from regional population in benchmarks
- Provides advanced funding to ACOs
- Improves Advanced APM incentives and fixes “QP” thresholds
  - Extends the Advanced APM bonus for six additional years
  - Maintains the QP payment threshold at 50% through performance year 2022 (payment year 2024) with small annual increases thereafter
- Requires study on overlap in value-based care programs
- Calls for GAO study on racial health disparities for ACOs compared to FFS



***To recognize our Congressional supporters,  
NAACOS is pleased to present the  
Champion of Value in Health Care Award***

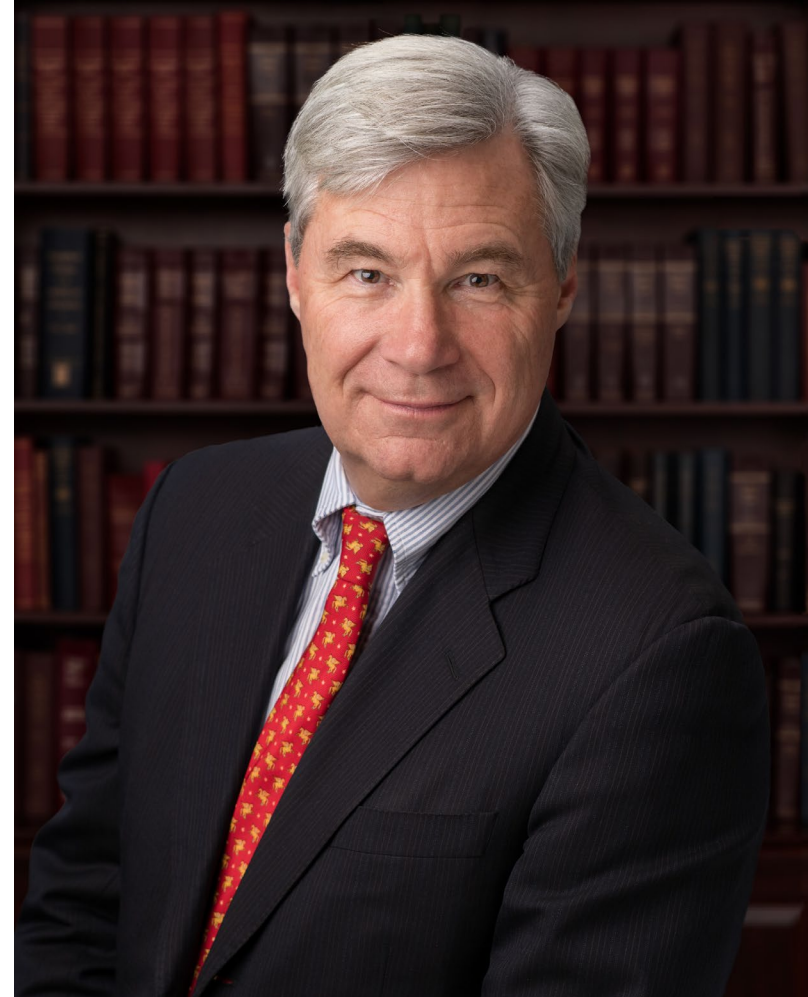
# Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse



Sen. Whitehouse of Rhode Island has been a vocal supporter of ACOs and the benefits they've brought our health system during several committee hearings this year.

He has been a champion of the Value in Health Care Act and is working to get it introduced in the Senate.

Sen. Whitehouse has worked in a bipartisan fashion with CMS on several regulatory issues, including last year to provide relief to ACOs as they combated the COVID-19 pandemic.

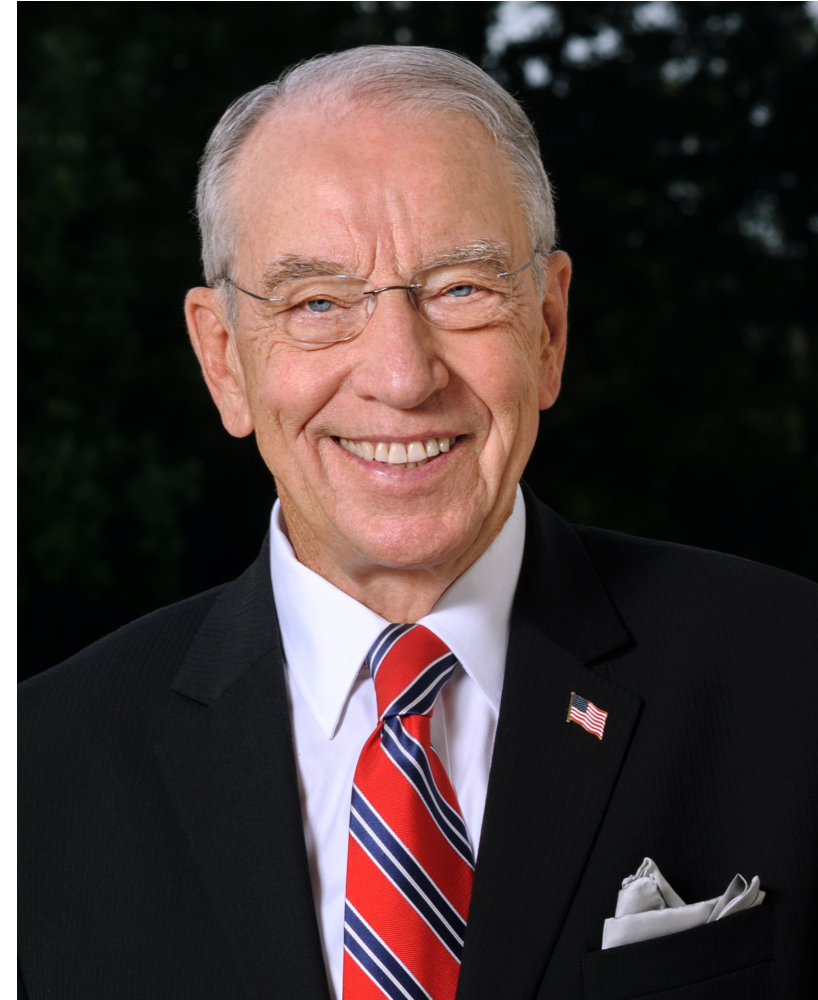


# Sen. Chuck Grassley



While Sen. Grassley of Iowa chaired the Senate Finance Committee, he was instrumental in freezing Qualifying Alternative Payment Model (APM) Participant (QP) thresholds at 2020 levels for the next two years. This change, included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (H.R. 133), will enable many ACOs to continue to qualify for Advanced APM bonuses and support Medicare's transition to value.

Also as Finance Committee chair, he worked to provide important oversight of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) of 2015, which sought to move providers into APM participation.





## COVID-19 Protocol Reminders

- Socially distance when possible
- Please abide by DC's indoor mask mandate

*Connor says: "Don't be a hugging machine this week!"*

*Thank you for your cooperation and efforts to keep everyone safe!*