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Testimony before the House Health Policy Committee on HB 6325

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on House Bill 6325. The Economic Alliance for Michigan (EAM) is comprised of businesses and labor organizations focusing on cooperative, action-oriented endeavors to improve the reality and image of Michigan as a place to do business and be employed. EAM members represent over 900,000 residents of our state.

We would like to share the reasons for our opposition to House Bill 6325. As you may be aware, the Certificate of Need Cardiac Catheterization Standards Advisory Committee is reviewing this very issue. This committee is made up of 13 of the state's leading experts in Cardiac Catheterization along with additional provider, payer, purchaser, and consumer representatives. At their November 19 meeting the committee voted to allow certain cardiac catheterization procedures to be delivered at an ambulatory surgical center. The committee will be adding further clarification to this question in subsequent meetings and will finish its work on February 18, 2021. Once any language changes are recommended by the committee, and that language is prepared, the Commission could act on it as early as their March meeting. Once adopted by the commission the language would go to the legislature for review.

The CMS CPT code system isn't a statement or validation that a procedure should be done, or that it can be done safely. In Michigan we have a system in place where leading experts in a field (not bureaucrats or special interests) are developing the guidance for how something should be regulated. Those experts have to balance cost, quality, and access to the service. We have serious concerns that some procedures done in an outpatient setting will put patients in unnecessary harm.

We ask the legislature to trust and continue to support the process and the many different stakeholders from around the state that participate in it. We also suggest that advocates for change use the many public meeting opportunities to express their views and state their case for why the standards should be modified.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to express our views on House Bill 6325.
