



ILLINOIS POLICY
INSTITUTE

The Honorable Peter Roskam
227 Cannon House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Carney
1429 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Roskam and Carney:

Patients and taxpayers are at risk as Medicaid programs across the nation fall billions of dollars behind on bills. Illinois is one such state.

Cost savings for these programs are crucial. That's why the Illinois Policy Institute supports the Medicare and Medicaid FAST Act. This bill saves taxpayer money by fighting waste, fraud and abuse in both the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

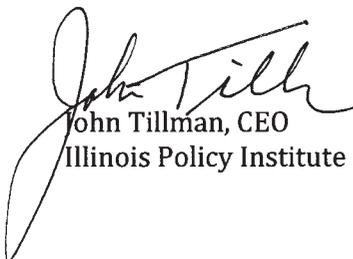
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services estimate that these federal programs lose between \$70 billion and \$100 billion annually to waste, fraud and abuse. The FAST Act fights these problems with common sense solutions that create barriers for fraudulent billing, check questionable bills before paying them and improve data sharing between state and federal agencies and programs.

The Act also implements the structural solutions recommended by independent auditors to prevent fraudulent payments before they're actually made, rather than the current practice of chasing the money down after the fact.

While other reforms to Medicare and Medicaid are necessary to control out-of-control spending and unfunded liabilities, the FAST Act is an important first step in controlling the waste, fraud and abuse rampant in the system.

As a nonprofit research organization committed to free market principles and good government, the Illinois Policy Institute embraces policies that increase government transparency and reduce wasteful spending. We strongly support the FAST Act for its commitment to these principles.

Sincerely,



John Tillman, CEO
Illinois Policy Institute