PatientRightsAdvocate.org Presents Rep. McMorris Rodgers with Price Transparency Champion Award

Lawmaker honored for fighting on behalf of American patients

Today, <u>PatientRightsAdvocate.org</u> (PRA) announced that U.S. Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) will receive PRA's new *Price Transparency Champion Award*, which recognizes elected leaders for extraordinary efforts to support healthcare price transparency and protect their constituents from opaque billing practices. See the full release <u>here</u>.

"I congratulate Rep. McMorris Rodgers for this distinction and applaud her outstanding leadership on behalf of America's patients and healthcare consumers," said PRA Founder and Chairman Cynthia Fisher. "At a time when most hospitals are still choosing to keep patients in the dark and blindsiding them with hidden prices, Rep. McMorris Rodgers has taken a stand to put a stop to this extortion. Her sponsorship of <u>the PATIENT Act</u> and tireless advocacy for strong enforcement of hospital price transparency rules have made price transparency the top healthcare issue on Capitol Hill. PRA salutes her invaluable contributions toward a more affordable healthcare system based on choice and competition and encourages other lawmakers to follow her lead."

"Patients want more transparency around the price of healthcare to be empowered to make decisions that are best for them and their families," said Rep. McMorris Rodgers. "Congress hears them loudly and clearly and is working diligently to strengthen existing hospital transparency rules that require price disclosure and increase transparency from insurance companies, pharmacy benefit managers, and laboratories. I'm proud to lead this effort through our PATIENT Act and am grateful to Patient Rights Advocate for their tireless work supporting these efforts. I am honored to receive this award and will continue pushing to get these provisions passed through Congress and signed into law."

The introduction of the Price Transparency Champion Award comes after last month's release of PRA's <u>fifth Semi-Annual Hospital Price Transparency Compliance Report</u>, which revealed that only 36% of U.S. hospitals reviewed are in full compliance with the federal <u>Hospital Price Transparency Rule</u>, including only 34.5% of hospitals (10 of 29) in Washington.

In a separate category for hospitals, PRA also presented an award to Pullman Regional Hospital – located in Rep. McMorris Rodgers' congressional district – for its exemplary price transparency compliance.

Each elected official honored with this award demonstrated exceptional leadership in enforcing and strengthening healthcare price transparency measures at the state or federal level, and in so doing displayed a steadfast commitment to putting patients first.

Other officials honored with PRA's inaugural Price Transparency Champion Award include:

- U.S. Representative Frank Pallone, Sixth District of New Jersey
- Governor Jared Polis, Colorado

About PRA

PatientRightsAdvocate.org (PRA) is a leading national healthcare price transparency organization dedicated to ushering in systemwide transparency through advocacy, testimony, media, legal research, and grassroots campaigns. PRA believes that the availability and visibility of actual, upfront healthcare prices will greatly lower costs for patients and employers through a functional, competitive healthcare marketplace.

<u>Click here</u> to view PRA's "<u>Patient Voices</u>" ad campaign.