Views of Large Employers on Advancing Patient-Centered Health Care Solutions Presented Before House Education and the Workforce Committee

Tevi Troy, CEO of the American Health Policy Institute, Provided Often Overlooked Perspective

Washington, D.C. – Today, Tevi Troy, CEO of the American Health Policy Institute (AHPI), testified before the U.S. House Education and the Workforce Committee at a hearing entitled, “Rescuing Americans from the Failed Health Care Law and Advancing Patient-Centered Solutions.” This hearing serves as an important part of the congressional regular order process looking into a possible replacement plan for the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Dr. Troy analyzed the cost burden of the ACA to employer-sponsored health care and advocated that any replacement to the law strengthen ERISA preemption and maintain the tax exclusion on employer-sponsored health insurance.

Dr. Troy said, “While the public debate over the ACA appropriately focuses on the 20 million Americans who are receiving coverage through its exchanges and Medicaid expansion, the Act also significantly, and in many cases unnecessarily, increased the regulatory requirements and burdens on employment-based health care that covers more than 177 million Americans. Too little attention has been focused on this important aspect of the law.”

In order to move toward a more patient-centered health care system, Dr. Troy suggested that we look to the private sector for transformation. “Innovations in large employer-sponsored health care benefits are helping to significantly reduce health care costs for employees, retirees and their dependents – and are leading the way for overall system reform,” he said.

Dr. Troy noted that as health care reform moves forward, federal policies should leverage and encourage flexibility in employer-sponsored health care benefits to enable large employers to continue to make these innovations. Such policies, he argued, will be critical to making the Nation’s workforce healthier and more productive and making the overall American health care system more fiscally sustainable.