



The Honorable Bill Foster
United States Representative
2366 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

December 10, 2018

Dear Congressman Foster,

On behalf of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, I am writing to support the Medical Records Access Fairness Act. Thank you for your commitment and leadership in introducing this important bill, which seeks to strengthen a patient's right to access their own medical records by removing cost barriers that patients may currently face.

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is a national organization dedicated to curing cystic fibrosis. Our mission is to provide all people with the disease the opportunity to lead full, productive lives by funding research and drug development, promoting individualized treatment, and ensuring access to high-quality, specialized care. CF is a chronic, life-threatening genetic disease that requires a complex treatment regimen, including regular visits to a multidisciplinary care team at an accredited CF care center. Living with CF is expensive, and families often bear a portion of the high costs of medications, medical equipment, visits to the clinic, and hospitalizations.

Patients with chronic diseases, such as CF, can have lengthy medical records chronicling the complex care they receive over the course of their lives. If a patient is changing health care providers or otherwise needs access to their medical records, the cost of obtaining their records can be prohibitive, especially for patients already facing high medical costs. The Medical Records Access Fairness Act is an important step in ensuring that all patients can obtain a copy of their medical records regardless of their financial circumstance while including protections for health care providers against excessive records requests and the resulting administrative burden.

Thank you again for your leadership on this issue. Please let us know if we can be of assistance in the future.

Sincerely,

Mary B. Dwight
Senior Vice President, Policy & Advocacy