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February 15, 2024

RE: Support for the Preventive Health Savings Act

Dear Chair Arrington, Ranking Member Boyle, and members of the House Budget Committee,

The Obesity Action Coalition (OAC) appreciates the opportunity to express support for the Preventive Health Savings Act. As you know this bill would remove outdated statutory constraints that prevent the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) from using methods that would more correctly assess preventive health initiatives and identify long-term health savings in federal programs.

The OAC is the leading national non-profit dedicated to serving people living with obesity through awareness, support, education, and advocacy. Our vision is to create a society where all individuals are treated with respect and without discrimination or bias regardless of their size or weight. We strive for those affected by the disease of obesity to have the right to access safe and effective treatment options. OAC has a strong and growing membership of more than 80,000 individuals affected by obesity from across the United States.

OAC agrees that the statutory constraints CBO must currently follow to "score" legislation limit the information provided to policymakers to accurately assess legislation that would prevent chronic diseases. The Preventive Health Savings Act is a significant step toward the goal of improving analysis methods to improve access to care and bring greater attention to the longer-term value of health, wellness, and prevention policies - especially for people living with obesity.

Obesity is driven by strong biology, not by choice and it is often the root cause and driver of other health complications. Our country must acknowledge obesity for the chronic disease that it is and take steps to treat it in the same serious fashion as other chronic disease states such as diabetes and hypertension. OAC looks forward to working with Congress to identify policy solutions, like the Preventive Health Savings Act, to improve access to obesity care.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please reach out to our Policy Advisor, Chris Gallagher at [chris@potomaccurrents.com](mailto:chris@potomaccurrents.com). Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Nadglowski, Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

Joseph Nadglowski, Jr.  
OAC President and CEO