



DENIED

**REAL STORIES FROM AMERICANS
FAILED BY HOSPITALS**



Consumers
for Quality Care



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March 18, 2026

**Chairman Guthrie,
Ranking Member Pallone,
Members of the Committee and Staff:**

Consumers for Quality Care is committed to ensuring that real patients and families have a voice in the ongoing health care debate. The pages that follow are real-life stories of egregious hospital practices that harm the American people. These news-documented examples illustrate how the predatory actions of hospitals are increasingly leading to financial hardship and compromised outcomes for patients across the United States.

As you prepare to question top executives from major hospital systems on their institutions' role in contributing to rising health care costs, we urge you to prioritize the patient experience. This compilation of personal stories provides relevant context and urgency to the discussion, and illustrates the increasing role played by hospitals in the health care affordability crisis in this country.

The enclosed set of articles highlight systemic issues and harmful practices that are crushing individuals and families across the country with medical debt. These examples represent only a small fraction of the daily challenges faced by patients who are having to choose between receiving care or going deeper and deeper into debt. Simply put: hospital systems are bleeding consumers dry.

We respectfully submit these stories for your consideration and use as the Committee examines hospital conduct and the broader implications for patient access, affordability, and quality of care. Should your office seek further documentation, patient testimony, or additional data, Consumers for Quality Care and our partners stand ready to assist.

Thank you for your attention to these critical patient-centered concerns.

Sincerely,

Consumers for Quality Care

CQC

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



Consumers
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Infusion
Access
Foundation



MANIA®
A National Latina Organization



TCA
Treatment Communities of America



ZERO®
PROSTATE CANCER

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- [Healthcare Dive](#): Pennsylvania attorney general sues Prospect Medical alleging 'corporate greed'
- [Spotlight PA](#): PA nonprofit hospitals could face new scrutiny • Spotlight PA
- [WHYY](#): Prospect, Crozer Health's parent company, has long history of siphoning millions from hospitals

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- [WBTV](#): South Carolina law allows hospitals to garnish paychecks and tax refunds to collect medical debt
- [Becker's Hospital Review](#): South Carolina hospital sued over debt collection practices
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