



**March 2, 2022 (WASHINGTON, DC)** – Home Care Association of America (HCAOA) CEO Vicki Hoak released this statement following President Biden's comments during Tuesday night's State of the Union address that nursing homes will soon be subject to tougher Medicare oversight:

"Like many Americans on both sides of the political divide, I watched the President's State of the Union address with unease about the state of our world today, hoping for reassurance. I felt a moment of hope and calm when President Biden said that his Administration is going to set higher standards for nursing homes and make sure our loved ones get the care they deserve. As a vital part of the health care continuum that focuses on care in the home rather than in a facility, this is what we strive for every day, and it was reassuring to see the president make seniors and their safety a priority.

Just last week, HCAOA released a new report, <u>State of Home Care: Industry at a Crossroads</u>, in partnership with the Global Coalition on Aging, because we recognized that the COVID-19 pandemic put home care at the epicenter of a national discussion about the importance, safety and value of care for older Americans. This new report outlines six policy priorities that serve as a reminder that while our government must step up and take a leading role to protect and support America's growing older population, the home care industry itself must continue to evolve and innovate.

By working together, policymakers and industry leaders can create a vibrant home care industry that can meet the massive demand for care creating a stronger social safety net that enables all Americans to live and age in comfort, safety, independence and dignity – at home."

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## ABOUT HCAOA

Founded in 2002, the Home Care Association of America (HCAOA) is the unified voice of the home care industry, strengthening our members through advocacy, education, and research. We represent nearly 4,000 agencies that employ more than 500,000 caregivers across the United States.

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