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COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2176 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

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July 6, 2026

Simcha Bendet  
Founder  
The Perfect Child, LLC  
1255 East 31st Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11210

Dear Mr. Bendet:

The Committee on Education and Workforce (Committee) is investigating health care costs borne by employer-sponsored health plans governed by the *Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974* (ERISA). A recent Wall Street Journal article described instances in which autism therapy providers—including your company—allegedly submitted unusually large claims, charged rates substantially exceeding prevailing market prices, generated significant out-of-network reimbursement demands, and pursued payment directly from families following reimbursement disputes.<sup>1</sup> As part of its oversight responsibilities, the Committee seeks information regarding these matters, specifically, the business and reimbursement practices of your company. The Committee is investigating whether certain reimbursement arrangements within the autism therapy industry have contributed to excessive health care costs and distorted incentives in ways that may warrant congressional action.

Employer-sponsored health plans provide coverage to 154 million Americans and represent a significant component of employee compensation.<sup>2</sup> Plan fiduciaries have a responsibility to ensure that plan assets are managed prudently and exclusively for the benefit of plan participants and beneficiaries.<sup>3</sup> Allegations that health care providers may be submitting excessive charges, engaging in abusive reimbursement practices, or exploiting gaps in oversight raise significant concerns regarding the stewardship of plan assets.

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<sup>1</sup> Christopher Weaver & Anna Wilde Mathreus, *The Autism-Therapy Business Is Booming—and So Is the Billing Abuse*, THE WALL ST. JOURNAL (June 1, 2025), <https://www.wsj.com/health/healthcare/autism-therapy-insurance-bills-880b9dba?mod>.

<sup>2</sup> KFF, EMPLOYER-SPONSORED HEALTH INSURANCE 101, Apr. 15, 2026, <https://www.kff.org/health-costs/health-policy-101-employer-sponsored-health-insurance/?entry=table-of-contents-introduction>.

<sup>3</sup> ERISA § 404(a)(1), 29 U.S.C. § 1104(a)(1).

Accordingly, the Committee requests information to better understand how billing, reimbursement, and business practices within the autism therapy industry may be contributing to rising health care costs for workers, families, and job creators. Please provide the following information regarding the period of January 1, 2020, to the present by no later than July 20, 2026:

1. Documents sufficient to show annual gross revenue derived from:
  - a. employer-sponsored health plans, including both fully insured and self-funded ERISA-covered plans;
  - b. In-network claims; and
  - c. Out-of-network claims.
2. Documents sufficient to show the average billed amount and average collected amount for each major autism therapy billing code utilized by your organization.
3. Documents sufficient to show the 25 highest-reimbursed claims submitted by your organization since January 1, 2020.
4. Documents sufficient to show the highest aggregate annual amount billed for services provided to a single patient during each calendar year since January 1, 2020.
5. Documents sufficient to show the number of patients who have been billed for more than 20 hours of therapy in any single week.
6. All internal policies governing:
  - a. Charge-setting methodologies;
  - b. Out-of-network reimbursement practices;
  - c. Collection activities;
  - d. Balance billing; and
  - e. Claims documentation requirements.
7. Documents sufficient to show the number of instances in which your organization sought payment directly from patients or families after a health plan denied, reduced, or disputed reimbursement.
8. Any internal audits, compliance reviews, reimbursement integrity reviews, or external consulting reports related to billing practices.
9. Documents sufficient to show the number of claims challenged, denied, investigated, or referred for fraud, waste, or abuse review to your organization by any health insurer, third-party administrator, employer-sponsored health plan, or governmental payer.

10. Any analysis performed by your organization concerning the impact of reimbursement practices on employer-sponsored health plan costs.
11. Documents sufficient to identify executive compensation structures, bonuses, or incentive programs tied to revenue generation, reimbursement rates, collections, or claim volume.
12. All standard enrollment materials, including but not limited to financial responsibility forms and patient agreement forms.

The Committee recognizes the important role that autism therapy providers can play in serving children and families. The Committee's objective is not to restrict access to medically necessary care, but rather to ensure that adequate laws and regulations are in place to protect employer-sponsored health plans, workers, and beneficiaries from waste, fraud, abuse, and excessive health care costs, and if not what legislative changes may be required. Transparency regarding provider reimbursement and billing practices is essential to understanding whether current market incentives are aligned with the interests of patients, employers, and plan participants. The Committee has jurisdiction over matters relating to ERISA and employer-sponsored health plans.<sup>4</sup> Your responses to the Committee's requests will assist the Committee in determining whether any legislative changes are warranted.<sup>5</sup>

Your prompt response to this letter is appreciated. If you have any questions about these requests, please contact Committee staff at 202-225-4527.

Sincerely,



Tim Walberg  
Chairman



Rick W. Allen  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Health, Employment,  
Labor and Pensions

Enclosure

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<sup>4</sup> RULES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE, Rule 3(a) (119th Cong.) (2025) (Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions has jurisdiction over ERISA), <https://docs.house.gov/meetings/ED/ED00/20250115/117778/HMTG-119-ED00-20250115-SD002.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> See *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 187 (1957) ("It is unquestionably the duty of all citizens to cooperate with the Congress in its efforts to obtain the facts needed for intelligent legislative action.").

## **Responding to Committee Document Requests**

1. The Perfect Child, LLC's (the organization) response to questions and request(s) should be answered or provided in a separate document and not included inside a narrative response.
2. In complying with this request, you should produce all responsive documents that are in the organization's possession, custody, or control, whether held by you or other past or present employees of the organization, or a representative acting on your behalf. Your response should also produce documents that you have a legal right to obtain, that the organization has a right to copy or to which you have access, or that you have placed in the temporary possession, custody, or control of any third party.
3. Records, documents, data, or information that have been requested and/or are related to underlying requests should not be destroyed, modified, removed, transferred or otherwise made inaccessible to the Committee on Education and Workforce (the "Committee").
4. If any entity, other organization, or individual denoted in this request has been, or is also known by any other name than that herein denoted, the request shall be read also to include that alternative identification.
5. The Committee's preference is to receive documents in electronic form (i.e., email, CD, memory stick, or thumb drive) in lieu of paper productions. To the extent responses are provided in paper form, any documents that are stapled, clipped, or otherwise fastened together should not be separated. Documents produced in response to a request should be produced together with copies of file labels, dividers, or identifying markers with which they were associated when this request was issued.
6. Regardless of format, documents produced pursuant to this request should be produced in the order in which they appear in your files and should not be rearranged. Indicate the office or division and person from whose files each document was produced.
7. Regardless of format, documents produced to the Committee should include an index describing the contents of the production and a total page count for the entire production. To the extent more than one CD, hard drive, memory stick, thumb drive, box or folder is produced, each CD, hard drive, memory stick, thumb drive, box, or folder should contain an index describing its contents. Documents produced in electronic format should also be identified and indexed electronically.
8. Electronic document productions should be prepared according to the following standards:
  - (a) The production should consist of single page Tagged Image File ("TIF"), files accompanied by a Concordance-format load file, an Opticon reference file, and a file defining the fields and character lengths of the load file.
  - (b) Document numbers in the load file should match document Bates numbers and TIF file names.

- (c) If the production is completed through a series of multiple partial productions, field names and file order in all load files should match.
9. All documents shall be Bates-stamped sequentially and produced sequentially.
  10. When you produce documents, you should individually identify the paragraph, question number, or request number in the Committee's request to which the documents respond.
  11. It shall not be a basis for refusal to produce documents that any other person or entity—either inside or outside of the organization—also possesses non-identical or identical copies of the same documents.
  12. If any of the requested information is only reasonably available in machine-readable form (such as on a computer server, hard drive, or computer backup tape), the organization's staff should consult with the Committee staff to determine the appropriate format in which to produce the information.
  13. If compliance with any request cannot be made in full, compliance shall be made to the extent possible and shall include a written explanation of why full compliance is not possible.
  14. If the organization does not expect to produce all documents responsive to a request by the date requested, the organization's staff shall consult with the Committee as soon as it is known the organization cannot meet the deadline, but no later than 24 hours before the due date to explain:
    - (a) what will be provided by the due date;
    - (b) why the organization believes certain materials cannot be produced by the due date; and
    - (c) the organization's proposed timeline for providing any omitted information.
  15. If any document responsive to this request was, but no longer is, in your possession, custody, or control, or has been placed into the possession, custody, or control of any third party and cannot be provided in response to this request, you should:
    - (a) identify the document, including its date, author, subject, and recipients;
    - (b) explain the circumstances under which the document ceased to be in your possession, custody, or control, or was placed in the possession, custody, or control of a third party;
    - (c) state how the document was disposed of;
    - (d) identify the name, current address, and telephone number of the person who currently has possession, custody, or control over the document;
    - (e) state the date of disposition; and
    - (f) identify the name, current address, and telephone number of each person who authorized said disposition or who had or has knowledge of said disposition.

16. If any document responsive to this request cannot be located, identify the document and describe with particularity the efforts made to locate the document and the specific reason for its disappearance, destruction, or unavailability.
17. In the event that a document or portion of a document is withheld on the basis of alleged privilege, provide a privilege log containing the following information concerning any such document or redaction:
  - (a) Bates number(s);
  - (b) the alleged privilege asserted and the grounds therefor;
  - (c) the type of document;
  - (d) the general subject matter;
  - (e) any other description necessary to identify the document;
  - (f) the date, author, and addressee; and
  - (g) the relationship of the author and addressee to each other.

If a claimed privilege applies to only a portion of any document, that portion only should be withheld and the remainder of the document should be produced.

18. Any objections or claims of privilege are waived if you fail to provide an explanation of why full compliance is not possible and a log identifying with specificity the ground(s) for withholding each withheld document prior to the request compliance date.
19. In complying with the request, be apprised that (unless otherwise determined by the Committee) the Committee does not recognize: any purported non-disclosure privileges associated with the common law including, but not limited to, the deliberative-process privilege, the attorney-client privilege, and attorney work product protections; any purported privileges or protections from disclosure under the *Freedom of Information Act*; or any purported contractual privileges, such as non-disclosure agreements.
20. Any assertion by a request recipient of any such non-constitutional legal bases for withholding documents or other materials, for refusing to answer any deposition question, or for refusing to provide hearing testimony, shall be of no legal force and effect and shall not provide a justification for such withholding or refusal, unless and only to the extent that the Committee (or the chair of the Committee, if authorized) has consented to recognize the assertion as valid.
21. If a date or other descriptive detail set forth in this request referring to a document, communication, meeting, or other event is inaccurate, but the actual date or other descriptive detail is known to you or other employees of the organization, or is otherwise apparent from the context of the request, you should produce all documents that would be responsive as if the date or other descriptive detail were correct.
22. The time period covered by this request is included in the attached request. To the extent a time period is not specified, produce relevant documents from January 1, 2020, to the present.

23. This request is continuing in nature and applies to any newly-discovered information. Any record, document, compilation of data, or information, not produced because it has not been located or discovered by the return date, shall be produced immediately upon subsequent location or discovery. Such submission shall include an explanation as to why the information was not produced originally.
24. If physical documents are to be delivered, documents should be delivered to the Majority Staff in Room 2176 of the Rayburn House Office Building during Committee office hours (9am-5pm, unless other arrangements are made) and signed by a member of the staff upon delivery.
25. Upon completion of the document production, the organization's written response should include a written certification, signed by Simcha Bendet or his designee, stating that:
  - (a) a diligent search has been completed of all documents in your possession, custody, or control that reasonably could contain responsive documents; and
  - (b) all documents located during the search that are responsive have been produced to the Committee.

## **Definitions**

1. The term "document" means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, and whether original or copy, including, but not limited to, the following: memoranda, reports, expense reports, books, manuals, instructions, financial reports, working papers, records, notes, letters, notices, confirmations, telegrams, receipts, appraisals, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, prospectuses, inter-office and intra-office communications, electronic mail (e-mail), contracts, cables, notations of any type of conversation, telephone call, meeting or other communication, bulletins, printed matter, computer printouts, teletypes, invoices, transcripts, diaries, analyses, returns, summaries, minutes, bills, accounts, estimates, projections, comparisons, messages, correspondence, press releases, circulars, financial statements, reviews, opinions, offers, studies and investigations, questionnaires and surveys, and work sheets (and all drafts, preliminary versions, alterations, modifications, revisions, changes, and amendments of any of the foregoing, as well as any attachments or appendices thereto), and graphic or oral records or representations of any kind (including without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings and motion pictures), and electronic, mechanical, and electric records or representations of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, cassettes, disks, and recordings) and other written, printed, typed, or other graphic or recorded matter of any kind or nature, however produced or reproduced, and whether preserved in writing, film, tape, disk, videotape, or otherwise. A document bearing any notation not a part of the original text is to be considered a separate document. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of this term.
2. The term "documents in your possession, custody or control" means documents that are in your possession, custody, or control, whether held by you or your past or present agents,

employees, or representatives acting on your behalf; documents that you have a legal right to obtain, that you have a right to copy, or to which you have access; and/or documents that have been placed in the possession, custody, or control of any third party.

3. The term “communication” means each manner or means of disclosure or exchange of information, regardless of means utilized, whether oral, electronic, by document or otherwise, and whether in a meeting, by telephone, facsimile, email, regular mail, telexes, releases, or otherwise.
4. The terms “and” and “or” shall be construed broadly and either conjunctively or disjunctively to bring within the scope of this request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope. The singular includes plural number, and vice versa. The masculine includes the feminine and neuter genders.
5. The terms “person” or “persons” mean natural persons, firms, partnerships, associations, corporations, subsidiaries, divisions, departments, joint ventures, proprietorships, syndicates, or other legal, business, or government entities, and all subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, departments, branches, or other units thereof.
6. The term “identify,” when used in a question about individuals, means to provide the following information: (a) the individual’s complete name and title; and (b) the individual’s business address and phone number.
7. The term “referring or relating,” with respect to any given subject, means anything that constitutes, contains, embodies, reflects, identifies, states, refers to, deals with or is pertinent to that subject in any manner whatsoever.
8. The term “entity” includes any lawful association, corporation, partnership, proprietorship, trust, institution, or individual that has the legal capacity to: (1) enter into agreements and contracts; (2) assume obligations; (3) incur and pay debts; (4) sue and be sued in its own right; and (5) be accountable for illegal activities.
9. The term “privilege” includes, but is not limited to, any claim that a document either may or must be withheld from production pursuant to any statute, rule, or regulation.
10. The term “employee” means agent, borrowed employee, casual employee, consultant, de facto employee, joint adventurer, loaned employee, part-time employee, permanent employee, provisional employee, contract employee, contractor, or any other type of service provider.
11. The term “the organization” means The Perfect Child, LLC, including (i) its predecessors, successors, wholly or partly owned direct or indirect subsidiaries, divisions, affiliates, and joint ventures and (ii) any current, past, or future partners, officers, directors, employees, representatives, or agents of any of the above entities.