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Council subcommittee statement shows employers' commitment to health care coverage innovation

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Benefits Council submitted expert testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health today, related to the subcommittee's hearing [Identifying Innovative Practices and Technology in Health Care](#).

The Council's testimony drew from [Leading the Way: Employer Innovations in Health Coverage](#), a recent report from the Council and Mercer showing how employer providers of health coverage are succeeding at lowering costs and improving the quality of service through innovation.

"Today's hearing is a recognition of the fact that employers are at the forefront of improving America's health care system through innovative strategies and value-based solutions," the testimony said. "As detailed in [Leading the Way](#), employers have pioneered strategies that directly address the biggest cost drivers in the U.S. health care system: the relatively small number of high-cost claims that drive such a large percentage of spending, increasing unit prices resulting from marketplace consolidation, misplaced incentives, waste, inefficiency, uneven quality of care and lack of transparency."

[The IDEA Institute](#) (Innovations in Design, Employers in Action), a new website hosted by the Council, includes these and other stories, and will be continually updated with fresh innovations from the employer community.

For more information on health policy and innovation, or to arrange an interview with Council President James Klein, please contact Jason Hammersla, vice president, communications, at jhammersla@abcstaff.org or by phone at (202) 289-6700 (office) or (202) 422-4652 (cell).

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The American Benefits Council is the national trade association for companies concerned about federal legislation and regulations affecting all aspects of the employee benefits system. The Council's members represent the entire spectrum of the private employee benefits community and either sponsor directly or administer retirement and health plans covering more than 100 million Americans.