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McDermott Calls for Study on Hospital Consolidation

Seattle, WA – Today, Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) sent a letter to the U.S. Government Accountability Office, or GAO, calling for a study on the increasing trend of hospital consolidation. Though these mergers and acquisitions may promote more integrated care and better care coordination for patients, consolidation may also result in less competition and higher costs for consumers.

McDermott asked that the GAO identify and analyze trends in hospital consolidation, including mergers and acquisition of physician practices and ancillary businesses.

"Policymakers need to understand the extent to which consolidation is occurring and how it impacts prices," **said McDermott** about the letter.