

April 9, 2020

Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate

Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate

Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives

Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Congressional Leaders:

We greatly appreciate your leadership in this time of national crisis and thank you for your quick actions to strengthen America's health care infrastructure with desperately needed financial support. The expanded accelerated payment policy for Medicare providers is an extremely helpful approach that allows us to maintain essential medical services for all patients. As you know, our hospitals have canceled tens-of-thousands of elective surgeries and non-emergent patient tests at the government's request to help assure there is adequate hospital capacity during the epidemic. This major shift has put some of America's hospitals on the brink of financial disaster.

The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General report released April 6 (Hospital Experiences Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Results of a National Pulse Survey March 23-27, 2020) found that substantial financial assistance is a top priority for all hospitals as we struggle to maintain services to the communities we serve.

**We write to you today respectfully requesting that Congress forgive all accelerated payments that hospitals and other providers receive,** as authorized in Section 3179 of the CARES Act. We ask you to include this policy change in the next COVID-19 relief legislation. While this change may still not provide enough financial support to hospitals, the situation can be re-evaluated as the course of the epidemic becomes more certain.

Unless these loans are forgiven, hospitals will be facing another financial crisis just four months from now as the government begins to withhold Medicare payments for services provided after the pandemic fades and until the loans are repaid. While the \$100 billion provider grant program, designed to provide support to all providers, will be helpful, we believe it will be woefully inadequate to compensate for our mounting losses. Without substantially more financial support, it is nearly certain that many hospitals will be forced to close or significantly reduce health care services over the next several months – and perhaps longer. This would be a tragic consequence, especially if the nation is hit with another round of the viral epidemic later this year.

Thank you for considering this request. We stand ready to work with you in every way to support our men and women on the frontline caring for those with the coronavirus. These heroes need to know that the nation will provide whatever it takes to assure they will have the resources to continue the battle.

Sincerely,

## **Health Systems**

AdventHealth  
Florida

Adventist HealthCare  
Maryland

Allina Health  
Minnesota

Appalachian Regional Healthcare  
Kentucky

Aultman Health Foundation  
Ohio

Avita Health System  
Ohio

Baptist Health  
Kentucky

Baylor Scott & White Health  
Texas

CentraCare  
Minnesota

Centura Health  
Colorado & Kansas

Genesis Healthcare System  
Ohio

Hackensack Meridian Health  
New Jersey

Henry Ford Health System  
Michigan

Kettering Health Network  
Ohio

Lake Health  
Ohio

Legacy Health  
Oregon

Loma Linda Health Network  
California

MaineHealth  
Maine

Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare  
Tennessee

Norton Healthcare  
Kentucky

Ochsner Health  
Louisiana

Oregon Health & Science University  
Oregon

OSF Healthcare  
Illinois

Parkview Health  
Indiana

Piedmont Healthcare  
Georgia

Presbyterian Healthcare Services  
New Mexico

ProMedica  
Ohio

Salem Health Hospitals and Clinics  
Oregon

Samaritan Health Services  
Oregon

Sanford Health  
South Dakota

Sisters of Charity Health System  
Ohio

St. Elizabeth Healthcare  
Kentucky

The Queens Health Systems  
Hawaii

Trinity Health  
North Dakota

## **Critical Access Hospitals**

### **Arizona**

White Mountain Regional Medical Center  
Wickenburg Community Hospital  
Howard Memorial Hospital

### **Arkansas**

Piggott Community Hospital  
Drew Memorial Health System

### **California**

Healdsburg District Hospital  
Tahoe Forest Health System  
Northern Inyo Healthcare District  
John C. Fremont Healthcare District

### **Colorado**

Haxtun Hospital District  
Kiowa County Health District  
Lincoln Community Hospital  
Sedgwick County Health Center  
Middle Park Medical Center  
Middle Park Health  
Memorial Regional Health  
Wray Community District Hospital  
Wray Hospital & Clinics  
Kit Carson County Hospital Memorial Hospital  
Keefe Memorial Hospital  
Yuma District Healthcare  
Melissa Memorial Hospital  
Southwest Health System, Inc.  
Southeast Colorado Hospital District  
Heart of The Rockies Regional Medical Center  
Prowers Medical Center  
Animas Surgical Hospital  
Aspen Valley Hospital  
Community Hospital  
Delta County Memorial Hospital  
Estes Park Health  
Family Health West  
Grand River Health  
Gunnison Valley Health  
Mind Springs Health / West Springs Hospital  
Montrose Memorial Hospital  
Pagosa Springs Medical Center  
Pioneers Medical Center  
Rangely District Hospital  
Rio Grande Hospital & Clinics  
San Luis Valley Health  
St. Mary's Medical Center (SCL Health)

Southwest Health System  
St. Vincent Hospital  
Telluride Regional Medical Center  
Vail Health  
Valley View

### **Georgia**

Putnam General Hospital

### **Idaho**

Syringa Hospital & Clinics  
Bingham Memorial Hospital  
Steele Memorial Medical Center

### **Illinois**

Perry Memorial Hospital  
Massac Memorial Hospital  
Ferrell Hospital Community Foundation

### **Indiana**

Henry Community Health

### **Iowa**

Compass Memorial Healthcare  
Clark County Hospital  
Humboldt County Memorial Hospital  
Regional Medical Center  
Buchanan County Health Center  
Lucas County Health Center  
Knoxville Hospital and Clinics  
Shenandoah Medical Center  
Monroe County Hospital & Clinics  
Davis County Hospital and Clinics  
Avera Merrill Pioneer Hospital  
Greater Regional Health

### **Kansas**

Sabetha Community Hospital  
Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems  
Stanton County Hospital  
Nemaha Valley Community Hospital  
Holton Community Hospital  
Hanover Hospital  
Rawlins County Health Center  
Goodland Regional Medical Center  
Minneola Healthcare

### **Kentucky**

Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services, Inc.

Carroll County Memorial Hospital

### **Louisiana**

Union General Hospital

### **Maine**

Down East Community Hospital

LincolnHealth

### **Minnesota**

Cuyuna Regional Medical Center

RiverView Health

North Shore Health

Carris Health Redwood

Swift County Benson Health Services

Kittson Healthcare

Pipestone County Medical Center Avera

Tri-County Health Care

### **Michigan**

Harbor Beach Community Hospital

Hills & Dales General Hospital

### **Mississippi**

Perry County General Hospital

Tyler Holmes Memorial Hospital

North Sunflower Medical Center

Greene County Hospital

### **Missouri**

Ray County Memorial Hospital

### **Montana**

Central Montana Medical Center

### **Nebraska**

Kearney County Health Services

Community Hospital

Osmond General Hospital

Niobrara Valley Hospital

Brodstone Memorial Hospital

Antelope Memorial Hospital

Fillmore County Hospital

Johnson County Hospital

Howard County Medical Center

Lexington Regional Health Center

Gordon Memorial Hospital District

Franklin County Memorial Hospital

Nemaha County Hospital

Phelps Memorial Health Center

Fillmore County Hospital

Gordon Memorial Hospital District

### **New Hampshire**

Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital

### **New York**

Erie County Medical Center

### **North Carolina**

Charles A Cannon Jr Memorial Hospital

### **North Dakota**

Ashley Medical Center

### **Ohio**

Aultman Orrville Hospital

Wyandot Memorial Hospital

Adena Greenfield Medical Center

Hocking Valley Community Hospital

Avita Health System

Bucyrus Community Hospital

Galion Community Hospital

Morrow County Hospital

Hardin Memorial Hospital

Shelby Memorial Hospital

### **Oklahoma**

Cimarron Memorial Hospital and RHC

### **Oregon**

Morrow County Health District/Pioneer

Memorial Hospital

Lake Health District

### **South Dakota**

Avera Gregory Hospital and Rosebud Country Care Center

Avera Hand County Memorial Hospital

Winner Regional Health

Fall River Health Services

### **Tennessee**

Claiborne County Medical Center

### **Texas**

Cogdell Memorial Hospital

Hardeman County Memorial Hospital

Palacios Community Medical Center

**Utah**

Central Valley Medical Center  
Moab Regional Hospital

**Washington**

Pullman Regional Hospital  
Mid-Valley Hospital & Clinic  
Three Rivers Hospital  
North Valley Hospital  
Tri-State Memorial Hospital & Medical Campus  
Lincoln Hospital and Clinics

**Wisconsin**

Burnett Medical Center  
Ladd Memorial Hospital, Inc  
Memorial Medical Center  
St. Croix Regional Medical Center  
Western Wisconsin Health

**Specialty Hospitals**

Gaylord Hospital  
Connecticut

Craig Hospital  
Colorado

**Independent and/or PPS Hospitals**

George Regional Hospital  
Mississippi

Grove Creek Medical Center  
Idaho

Hardin Memorial Hospital  
Kentucky

**CONTACTS:**

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**Wyoming**

Wyoming Hospital Association  
South Big Horn County Hospital District  
Powell Valley Healthcare  
Cody Regional Health  
St. John's Health  
North Big Horn Hospital District  
Memorial Hospital of Carbon County  
Summit Medical Center  
Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County  
Weston County Health Services  
Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital  
Johnson County Healthcare Center  
South Lincoln Hospital District  
Cheyenne Regional Medical Center  
Crook County Medical Services District  
Wyoming Medical Center  
Ivinson Memorial Hospital

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