

April 15, 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

Adena Health System
Ohio

AdventHealth
Florida

Adventist Health
California

Adventist HealthCare
Maryland

Allina Health
Minnesota

Appalachian Regional Healthcare
Kentucky

Atrium Health
North Carolina, Georgia

Aultman Health Foundation
Ohio

Avita Health System
Ohio

Baptist Health
Kentucky

Baylor Scott & White Health
Texas

CentraCare
Minnesota

Centura Health
Colorado, Kansas

CHRISTUS Health
Texas

Genesis Healthcare System
Ohio

Hackensack Meridian Health
New Jersey

HealthPartners
Minnesota

Henry Ford Health System
Michigan

Kettering Health Network
Ohio

Lake Health
Ohio

Lakeland Regional Health
Florida

Lehigh Valley Health Network
Pennsylvania

Legacy Health
Oregon

Loma Linda Health Network
California

MaineHealth
Maine

Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare
Tennessee

Munson Healthcare
Michigan

Norton Healthcare
Kentucky

Ochsner Health
Louisiana

Oregon Health & Science University
Oregon

OSF Healthcare
Illinois

Parkview Health
Indiana

PeaceHealth
Washington

Piedmont Healthcare
Georgia

Presbyterian Healthcare Services
New Mexico

ProMedica
Ohio

Providence St. Joseph Health
Washington

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

UnityPoint Health
Iowa

University Hospitals Health System
Ohio

UT Health East Texas
Texas

Critical Access Hospitals

Alaska

Central Peninsula Hospital

Arizona

White Mountain Regional Medical Center
Wickenburg Community Hospital

Arkansas

Drew Memorial Health System
Howard Memorial Hospital
Ozarks Community Hospital
Piggott Community Hospital

California

Catalina Island Medical Center
Healdsburg District Hospital
John C. Fremont Healthcare District
Northern Inyo Healthcare District
Tahoe Forest Health System

Colorado

Aspen Valley Hospital
Community Hospital
Delta County Memorial Hospital
Estes Park Health
Family Health West
Grand River Health
Gunnison Valley Health
Haxtun Hospital District
Heart of The Rockies Regional Medical Center
Keefe Memorial Hospital
Kiowa County Health District
Kit Carson County Hospital Memorial Hospital
Lincoln Community Hospital
Melissa Memorial Hospital
Memorial Regional Health
Middle Park Health
Middle Park Medical Center

Mind Springs Health / West Springs Hospital
Montrose Memorial Hospital
Mt San Raphael Hospital
Pagosa Springs Medical Center
Pioneers Medical Center
Prowers Medical Center
Rangely District Hospital
Rio Grande Hospital & Clinics
San Luis Valley Health
Sedgwick County Health Center
Southeast Colorado Hospital District
Southwest Health System
Southwest Health System, Inc.
St. Mary's Medical Center (SCL Health)
St. Vincent Hospital
Telluride Regional Medical Center
Vail Health
Valley View
Wray Community District Hospital
Wray Hospital & Clinics
Yuma District Healthcare

Georgia

Putnam General Hospital
Screven County Hospital
Tattnall Hospital

Idaho

Bingham Memorial Hospital
Gritman Medical Center
Steele Memorial Medical Center
Syringa Hospital & Clinics

Illinois

Ferrell Hospital Community Foundation
Massac Memorial Hospital
Perry Memorial Hospital

Indiana

Henry Community Health

Iowa

Avera Merrill Pioneer Hospital
Buchanan County Health Center
Clark County Hospital
Community Memorial Hospital
Compass Memorial Healthcare
Davis County Hospital and Clinics
Greater Regional Health
Guthrie County Hospital
Humboldt County Memorial Hospital
Knoxville Hospital and Clinics
Loring Hospital
Lucas County Health Center
MahaskaHealth
Monroe County Hospital & Clinics
Pocahontas Community Hospital
Regional Medical Center
Shenandoah Medical Center
Sioux Center Health
Virginia Gay Hospital

Kansas

Coffey Health System
Community Memorial Health, Inc
Edwards County Medical Center
Goodland Regional Medical Center
Hanover Hospital
Hiawatha Community Hospital
Holton Community Hospital
Minneola Healthcare
Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems
Nemaha Valley Community Hospital
Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center
Newman Regional Health
Phillips County Hospital
Rawlins County Health Center
Russell Regional Hospital
Sabetha Community Hospital
Stanton County Hospital
Wichita County Health Center

Kentucky

Carroll County Memorial Hospital
Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services, Inc.

Louisiana

Union General Hospital

Maine

Down East Community Hospital
LincolnHealth

Minnesota

Carris Health Redwood
Cuyuna Regional Medical Center
Kittson Healthcare
North Shore Health
Pipestone County Medical Center Avera
RiverView Health
Swift County Benson Health Services
Tri-County Health Care

Michigan

Harbor Beach Community Hospital
Hills & Dales General Hospital

Mississippi

Covington County Hospital
Greene County Hospital
Magee General Hospital
Memorial Hospital at Gulfport
North Sunflower Medical Center
Perry County General Hospital
Tyler Holmes Memorial Hospital

Missouri

Ray County Memorial Hospital

Montana

Central Montana Medical Center
Glendive Medical Center
Roosevelt Medical Center

Nebraska

Antelope Memorial Hospital
Brodstone Memorial Hospital
Bryan Merrick Medical Center
Chase County Community Hospital
Community Hospital
Fillmore County Hospital
Fillmore County Hospital
Franklin County Memorial Hospital
Gordon Memorial Hospital District
Gordon Memorial Hospital District
Howard County Medical Center
Johnson County Hospital
Kearney County Health Services
Lexington Regional Health Center
Morrill County Community Hospital
Nemaha County Hospital
Niobrara Valley Hospital
Osmond General Hospital
Phelps Memorial Health Center

New Hampshire

Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital

New York

Community Memorial Hospital
Ellenville Regional Hospital
Erie County Medical Center
Orleans Community Health

North Carolina

Charles A Cannon Jr Memorial Hospital

North Dakota

Ashley Medical Center

Ohio

Adena Greenfield Medical Center
Aultman Orrville Hospital
Bucyrus Community Hospital
Galion Community Hospital
Hardin Memorial Hospital
Hocking Valley Community Hospital
Morrow County Hospital
Shelby Memorial Hospital
Wyandot Memorial Hospital

Oklahoma

Cimarron Memorial Hospital and RHC

Oregon

Lake Health District
Morrow County Health District/Pioneer Memorial Hospital

South Carolina

Williamsburg Regional Hospital

South Dakota

Avera Gregory Hospital and Rosebud Country Care Center
Avera Hand County Memorial Hospital
Fall River Health Services
Winner Regional Health

Tennessee

Claiborne County Medical Center

Texas**Specialty Hospitals**

Animas Surgical Hospital
Colorado

Arizona Spine & Joint Hospital
Arizona

Cogdell Memorial Hospital
Hardeman County Memorial Hospital
Palacios Community Medical Center
Wilbarger General Hospital

Utah

Central Valley Medical Center
Moab Regional Hospital

Washington

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

West Virginia

Mon Health Medical Center
Roane General Hospital

Wisconsin

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

Wyoming

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

Craig Hospital
Colorado

Gaylord Hospital
Connecticut

Oak Leaf Surgical Hospital
Wisconsin

Lafayette Surgical Hospital
Louisiana

North Carolina Specialty Hospital
North Carolina

Northwest Specialty Hospital
Idaho

Independent and/or PPS Hospitals

Barton Health
California

Bothwell Regional Health Center
Missouri

Buena Vista Regional Medical Center
Iowa

Freestone Medical Center
Texas

George Regional Hospital
Mississippi

Great Falls Clinic Hospital
Montana

Grove Creek Medical Center
Idaho

Hardin Memorial Hospital
Kentucky

Idaho Falls Community Hospital
Idaho

Lubbock Heart & Surgical Hospital
Texas

South Texas Surgical Hospital
Texas

South Texas Spine & Surgical Hospital
Texas

The Physicians Centre Hospital
Texas

Mountain View Hospital
Idaho

Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center
New York

Physicians Medical Center
Louisiana

Pomerene Hospital
Ohio

Rush Health Systems
Mississippi, Alabama

Salem Regional Medical Center
Ohio

Southeastern Health
North Carolina

Southern Ohio Medical Center
Ohio

St. Anthony Regional Hospital
Iowa

Texas County Memorial Hospital
Texas

CONTACTS:

Lourdes Baez
Assistant VP, Government Relations
Baptist Health
Kentucky
502-253-4801

Russ Molloy
Senior Vice President, Government Relations
Hackensack Meridian Health
New Jersey
848-888-4544

