

March 10, 2021

Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate

Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States 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 appreciate your leadership in this time of unprecedented national crisis and thank you for your actions to strengthen America's health care infrastructure with desperately needed financial support. As you know, our hospitals canceled hundreds-of-thousands of elective surgeries and non-emergent patient tests last spring at the government's request to help assure adequate hospital capacity. As the coronavirus rages across the country with record case counts being eclipsed nearly every day, our hospitals are facing new and increased challenges that put significant stress on our resources. In many parts of the country there is a severe and growing shortage of nurses and other caregivers requiring additional funding to address.

The expanded accelerated and advanced payment policy for Medicare providers, as authorized in Section 3719 of the CARES Act, has been a helpful financial tool allowing us to maintain essential medical services for all patients. However, because of mounting expenses caused by the dramatic and growing spread of the coronavirus, **we write to you today to respectfully request that Congress convert to federal grants all the accelerated and advanced Medicare loans made to hospitals and other providers.** We ask you to make this policy change as soon as possible. Unless these loans are converted to grants, hospitals will likely face an insurmountable financial crisis as COVID-19 ravages the nation. It is not an overstatement to say that some will be forced to close, thus pushing the capacity of those that remain to even greater strains. In rural communities, the threat of closure is real – and the downstream effect to communities would be catastrophic, well beyond the scope of the pandemic. Those that do not close could be forced to significantly reduce health care services over the next several months.

While the \$178 billion provider relief fund has been helpful, it is inadequate to compensate for our mounting losses.

As you know, these Medicare loans have very stringent accountability requirements and assure that funds are used only for COVID-19 losses and expenses. These loan programs also provide Congress and the public with complete transparency. Funds not used for COVID-19 losses and expenses would be returned to the federal treasury.

Thank you for consideration of 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**

Adventist Healthcare  
California

Advocate Aurora Health  
Illinois, Wisconsin

Allina Health  
Minnesota

Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Inc.  
Kentucky

AtlantiCare Health System  
New Jersey

Atrium Health  
North Carolina

Aultman  
Ohio

Avera Health System  
South Dakota

Avita Health System  
Ohio

Baptist Health Systems  
Kentucky

Bon Secours Mercy Health  
Kentucky, New York, Ohio, South Carolina,  
Virginia

CentraCare  
Minnesota

Centura Health  
Colorado, Kansas

Charles A Cannon Jr Memorial Hospital  
North Carolina

Columbus Regional Healthcare System  
North Carolina

DRH Health  
Texas

Effingham Health System  
Georgia

Emory Healthcare  
Georgia

Enloe Medical Center  
California

FMOL Health System  
Louisiana, Mississippi

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health  
System  
Louisiana

Garnet Health, (formerly Greater  
Hudson Valley Health System)  
New York

Gonzales Healthcare Systems  
Texas

Hackensack Meridian Health  
New Jersey

Hawai'i Pacific Health  
Hawaii

Henry Ford Health System  
Michigan

Jefferson Health  
New Jersey, Pennsylvania

Kettering Health Network  
Ohio

Lake Health  
Ohio

Lee Health  
Florida

Legacy Health  
Oregon

Loma Linda University Health  
California

Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare  
Tennessee

Mon Health System  
West Virginia

Mountain Health Network  
West Virginia

Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center  
Alabama

Northeastern Health System Sequoyah  
Oklahoma

Oceans Healthcare  
Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas

Ochsner Health  
Louisiana

Opelousas General Health System  
Louisiana

OSF HealthCare  
Illinois, Michigan

Parkview Health  
Indiana

Parrish Healthcare  
Florida

Penn Medicine  
Pennsylvania

Perimeter Healthcare  
Georgia

Piedmont Healthcare  
Georgia

Phoebe Putney Health System  
Georgia

Presbyterian Healthcare Services  
New Mexico

ProMedica  
Ohio, Michigan

Renown Health  
Nevada

Ridgeview Medical Center Health System  
Minnesota

Riverside Health System  
Virginia

Rush Health Systems  
Alabama, Mississippi

Salem Health  
Oregon

Samaritan Health Services  
Oregon

Sisters of Charity Health System  
Ohio

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center  
Ohio

Summa Health System  
Ohio

The Queen's Health System  
Hawaii

The University of Vermont Health Network  
Vermont

Trinity Health  
North Dakota

Wake Forest Baptist Health  
North Carolina

WellStar Health  
Georgia

Wise Health System  
Texas

## **Critical Access Hospitals**

### **Arkansas**

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

### **Arizona**

Copper Queen Community Hospital  
Wickenburg Community Hospital

### **California**

Catalina Island Medical Center  
Modoc Medical Center  
Seneca Healthcare District

### **Colorado**

Colorado Canyons Hospital & Medical Center  
Community Hospital  
East Morgan County Hospital  
Haxtun Hospital District  
Kiowa County District Hospital  
Kremmling Memorial Hospital District  
Lincoln Community Hospital  
Memorial Regional Health  
Middle Park Health  
Melissa Memorial Hospital  
Pagosa Springs Medical Center  
Salida Hospital District dba Heart of The  
Rockies Regional Medical Center  
Sedgwick County Memorial Hospital  
Southwest Memorial Hospital  
Southeast Colorado Hospital District.  
Wray Community District Hospital  
Yuma District Hospital

### **Florida**

George E. Weems Memorial Hospital

### **Georgia**

Clinch Memorial Hospital  
Elbert Memorial Hospital  
Jeff Davis Hospital  
Liberty Regional Medical Center  
Putnam General Hospital

### **Iowa**

Burgess Health Center  
Clarke County Hospital  
Compass Memorial Healthcare  
Greater Regional Health  
Keokuk County Health Center  
Shenandoah Medical Center  
Washington County Hospital & Clinics

### **Idaho**

Bingham Memorial Hospital  
Gritman Medical Center

### **Illinois**

Massac Memorial Hospital  
Riverside Medical Center

### **Indiana**

Pulaski Memorial Hospital  
Woodlawn Hospital

### **Kansas**

Cheyenne County Hospital  
Community Memorial Healthcare  
Goodland Regional Medical Center  
Hiawatha Community Hospital  
Kearny County Hospital  
Morris County Hospital  
Newman Regional Health  
Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center  
Phillips County Health Systems  
Rawlins County Health Center  
Sabetha Community Hospital  
Scott County Hospital  
Smith County Memorial Hospital  
Stanton County Hospital  
Minneola Healthcare  
Wichita County Health  
Wilson Medical Center

### **Kentucky**

Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services, Inc  
Marshall County Hospital  
Ohio County Healthcare

### **Louisiana**

Lady of the Sea General Hospital  
Reeves Memorial Medical Center  
Riverside Medical Center  
Union General Hospital

**Maine**

Calais Regional Hospital  
Down East Community Hospital  
Houlton Regional Hospital  
Mount Desert Island Hospital

**Massachusetts**

Martha's Vineyard Hospital

**Michigan**

Hills & Dales General Hospital

**Minnesota**

Bigfork Valley  
Cook Hospital  
Cuyuna Regional Medical Center  
Lakewood Health System  
North Shore Health  
RiverView Health  
Sleepy Eye Medical Center

**Mississippi**

Covington County Hospital  
Greene County Hospital  
Lawrence County Hospital  
Magee General Hospital  
North Sunflower Medical Center  
Perry County General Hospital  
Simpson General Hospital  
Tallahatchie General Hospital  
Tippah County Hospital  
Tyler Holmes Memorial Hospital

**Missouri**

Putnam County Memorial Hospital  
Ray County Memorial Hospital

**New Hampshire**

Valley Regional Hospital

**Nebraska**

Annie Jeffrey MCHC  
Howard County Medical Center  
Gordon Memorial Hospital District  
Johnson County Hospital  
Kearney County Health Services  
Nemaha County Hospital

Niobrara Valley Hospital  
Providence Medical Center

**New Mexico**

Cibola General Hospital  
Holy Cross Medical Center  
Miners Colfax Medical Center

**North Carolina**

JA Doshier Memorial Hospital

**Ohio**

Hardin Memorial Hospital  
Henry County Hospital  
Hocking Valley Community Hospital  
Morrow County Hospital  
Shelby Memorial Hospital  
Wyandot Memorial Hospital

**Oklahoma**

Cimarron Memorial Hospital  
Roger Mills Memorial Hospital

**Oregon**

Harney District Hospital  
Lake Health District  
Morrow County Health District/  
Pioneer Memorial Hospital

**South Dakota**

Fall River Health Services

**Texas**

CCCHD Health System  
Cogdell Memorial Hospital  
Golden Plains Community Hospital  
Memorial Medical Center  
Rice Medical Center  
Ward Memorial Hospital

**Utah**

Central Valley Medical Center  
Moab Regional Hospital

**Washington**

Lake Chelan Health  
Mid-Valley Hospital  
Pullman Regional Hospital  
Skyline Hospital

Snoqualmie Valley Hospital  
Tri-State Memorial Hospital

### **West Virginia**

Grafton City Hospital  
Pocahontas Memorial Hospital

### **Wisconsin**

Burnett Medical Center  
Cumberland Healthcare  
Hayward Area Memorial Hospital  
Memorial Medical Center  
St. Croix Regional Medical Center

### **Wyoming**

Cheyenne Regional Medical Center  
Cody Regional Health  
Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital  
Memorial Hospital of Carbon County  
Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County  
North Big Horn Hospital District  
South Lincoln Hospital District  
Weston County Health Services

### **Independent Hospitals**

Baxter Regional Medical Center  
Arkansas

Blount Memorial Hospital  
Tennessee

Bothwell Regional Health Center  
Missouri

Central Peninsula Hospital  
Alaska

Claiborne Memorial Medical Center  
Louisiana

Comanche County Hospital Authority  
Oklahoma

Community Hospital  
Nebraska

Craig Hospital  
Colorado

Crouse Hospital  
New York

Deaconess Gibson Hospital  
Indiana

Deaconess Union County Hospital  
Kentucky

Ellis Hospital  
New York

Exeter Health Resources, Inc  
New Hampshire

Fisher Titus Medical Center  
Ohio

Freestone Medical Center and Health Clinics  
Texas

Gaylord  
Connecticut

Grove Creek Medical Center  
Idaho

Hale County Hospital  
Alabama

Hill Hospital of Sumter County  
Alabama

Hillsdale Hospital  
Michigan

Hobbs Hospital (FKA Lea Regional Medical  
Center)  
New Mexico

Illinois Valley Community Hospital  
Illinois

Jackson County Hospital District  
Florida

Kaleida Health  
New York

Keefe Memorial Hospital  
Colorado

King's Daughters Medical Center  
Mississippi

Knox Community Hospital  
Ohio

Lawrence General  
Massachusetts

Mass General Brigham  
Massachusetts

Meadows Regional Medical Center  
Georgia

Middlesex Health  
Connecticut

Mobridge Regional Hospital & Clinics  
South Dakota

Morris Hospital & Healthcare Centers  
Illinois

Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center  
New York

Neshoba County General Hospital  
Mississippi

Nevada Regional Medical Center  
Missouri

Northern Maine Medical Center  
Maine

Okanogan County Public Hospital District #3,  
dba Mid Valley Hospital  
Washington

Okeene Municipal Hospital  
Oklahoma

Olympia Medical Center  
California

Olympic Medical Center  
Washington

Pomerene Hospital  
Ohio

Rehoboth McKinley Christian Health Care Services  
New Mexico

Rockcastle Regional Hospital  
Kentucky

San Geronimo Memorial Hospital  
California

Shepherd Center  
Georgia

St. Anthony Regional Hospital  
Iowa

St. Rose Hospital  
California

Stilwell Memorial Hospital  
Oklahoma

Stringfellow Memorial Hospital  
Alabama

The Loretto Hospital  
Illinois

UNM Sandoval Regional Medical Center  
New Mexico

Val Verde Regional Medical Center  
Texas

Wayne Memorial Hospital  
Georgia

Wilson N. Jones Regional Medical Center  
Texas

Winona Health Services Hospital  
Minnesota

Wishek Hospital, dba South Central Health  
North Dakota

**Other Organizations:**

Tarzana Treatment Centers Inc.  
California

Texas Organization of Rural and Community  
Hospitals – TORCH  
Texas

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