



June 14, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
House Energy and Commerce Committee
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking member
House Energy and Commerce Committee
Washington, D.C.

Dear Speaker Ryan, Minority Leader Pelosi, Chairman Walden, and Ranking Member Pallone:

I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Urban Hospitals to convey our enthusiastic support for H.R. 6071, the Stretching Entity Resources for Vulnerable Communities (SERV) Act, which was introduced earlier this week by Representative Doris Matsui.

The SERV Act seeks to clarify that the intent of the 340B prescription drug discount program is to enable eligible safety-net hospitals to stretch limited resources by providing discounts on prescription drugs dispensed on an outpatient basis by qualified providers that serve especially large numbers of low-income patients. The program is a vital support that enables safety-net hospitals to help people in genuine need, including those seeking help with behavioral health problems and substance abuse disorders. The SERV Act would preserve the ability of safety-net hospitals to provide more help to the very people who most need their help.

H.R. 6071 also would reverse a damaging cut of \$1.6 billion in 340B payments to providers that took effect at the beginning of 2018. For many of our hospitals, that cut has had an immediate impact, limiting the reach and scope of our efforts and jeopardizing the health of residents of the communities that safety-net hospitals serve. H.R. 6071 would help undo the damage it has done.

NAUH endorses H.R. 6071 and looks forward to working with you and Congress to secure its adoption.

Sincerely,

Ellen Kugler
Executive Director

