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May 4, 2023

Please Cosponsor Bill to Delay Medicaid DSH Cut and Sign Onto Letter Supporting That Delay

Dear Representative:

I am writing on behalf of the Alliance of Safety-Net Hospitals (ASH) to urge you to co-sponsor <u>H.R. 2665, the</u> <u>Supporting Safety-Net Hospitals Act</u>, which would delay implementation of Medicaid disproportionate share payment (Medicaid DSH) cuts and to ask you to sign onto a bipartisan letter to House leaders asking them to achieve that end.

If unaddressed, Medicaid DSH payments will be cut \$8 billion a year beginning in 2024 – cuts that would fall heavily on the backs of community safety-net hospitals and the generally low-income communities they serve. These community safety-net hospitals are the primary providers of care for many uninsured, under-insured, low-income, and Medicare- and Medicaid-dependent Americans, and these hospitals rely heavily on Medicaid DSH for support in providing that care. Medicaid DSH payments are essential for their survival.

For these reasons, ASH makes two requests of you. First, we urge you to show your support for Medicaid DSH and the low-income communities that benefit from this vital program by co-sponsoring the bipartisan *H.R. 2665, the Supporting Safety-Net Hospitals Act.* Second, the bill's sponsors are circulating a letter to House leadership asking them to act to delay these potentially devastating cuts; we ask you to sign onto that letter. *Please use this form from Rep. Clarke's office to co-sponsor the bill and to sign onto to the letter. Please add your name to the letter no later than May 8th.* If you have any questions, please contact:

- Nisha Thanawala (Rep. Clarke) <u>Nisha. Thanawala@mail.house.gov</u>
- Colin Yokanovich (Rep. Crenshaw) Colin.Yokanovich@mail.house.gov
- Nimit Jindal (Rep. DeGette) <u>Nimit.Jindal@mail.house.gov</u>
- Jacquelyn Incerto (Rep. Burgess) Jacquelyn.Incerto@mail.house.gov

Congress has never allowed these Medicaid DSH cuts to take effect and now is certainly not the right time to restrict access to care. We hope you will support <u>*H.R. 2665, the Supporting Safety-Net Hospitals Act,*</u> which would delay this cut until 2026.

ASH appreciates your consideration of our request and welcomes any questions you may have about the importance of Medicaid DSH payments to community safety-net hospitals and the help we seek from you at this time.

Sincerely,

Kate Finkelstein Director, Government Relations

