



**ALLIANCE of  
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HOSPITALS**

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## **Patients Still Need Your Protection from Damaging Cuts**

**THANK YOU** from the Alliance of Safety-Net Hospitals (ASH) for the continuing resolution that ensures **cuts to Medicaid DSH are delayed** through the end of March.

**THANK YOU** for also including in the continuing resolution an **extension of the expanded telehealth flexibilities** through the end of March.

ASH is grateful that Medicaid DSH payments and access to medical care via telehealth were included in the year-end package and we know that March 31 is right around the corner. **We urge you to work for longer-term solutions for Medicaid DSH relief and telehealth services.**

- Medicaid DSH is a vital tool for helping community safety-net hospitals and others care for the residents of the economically vulnerable communities they serve. The hospitals that serve such communities rely heavily on Medicaid DSH for support in providing that care and Medicaid DSH payments are essential for their survival. Congress has never allowed these cuts to occur, and **we hope we can rely on you again to eliminate the \$8 billion Medicaid DSH cut scheduled to begin on April 1.**
- **As you know, unless Congress acts before April 1, patients will lose expanded access to medical care via telehealth and the hospital-at-home program.** Since 2020, patients have come to rely on the ability to receive care from their homes and Congress has protected that flexibility. Patients across the country are counting on Congress to preserve their access to care.

We ask Congress to also address cuts to physician payments in Medicare. As you know, a 2.8 percent payment reduction to Medicare physicians began on January 1. For the past four years, when doctors have faced similar pay cuts, Congress has recognized the impact of those cuts amid an ongoing workforce crisis and has lessened the size of the cuts. **We urge you to eliminate the 2025 reduction to Medicare doctors as soon as possible.**

**THANK YOU** for your continued hard work and dedication to the communities you represent. We look forward to working with you in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress to ensure your constituents and our patients have access to the health care they need.

Sincerely,

Kate Finkelstein  
Director of Federal Government Relations