



**ALLIANCE of
SAFETY-NET
HOSPITALS**

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Please Support Your Community in Reconciliation By Protecting Medicaid

Dear Representative Fulcher:

I am writing on behalf of the Alliance of Safety-Net Hospitals to ask you to support communities across the country by protecting Medicaid during the current reconciliation bill deliberations.

Across the country, large numbers of low-income, medically vulnerable people rely on mission-driven community safety-net hospitals, which offer the care their communities need – services like delivering babies, providing behavioral health care, operating substance use treatment programs, and more – even though those hospitals suffer significant financial losses by providing those services. Without these services, entire communities, not just their low-income residents but their privately insured neighbors as well, would lose access to such vital, life-saving care.

Community safety-net hospitals serve especially large numbers and high proportions of Medicaid patients. Today, those Medicaid patients and their community safety-net hospitals have an enormous stake in the work of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which is now considering Medicaid proposals for inclusion in the upcoming budget reconciliation bill.

Now, communities throughout the country need the Energy and Commerce Committee and Congress to preserve three tools critical to the ability of state governments to finance their share of the state-federal Medicaid partnership: the ability of states to levy **provider taxes** on hospitals – taxes that 49 of the 50 states currently employ and that providers support; the ability of states to employ **state-directed Medicaid payments** that require Medicaid managed care plans to supplement their payments for specific services and to specific types of providers to ensure access to selected medical services that are in high demand but low supply in many communities; and **the enhanced federal Medicaid matching funds for the Medicaid expansion population** that 40 states have used to help 21 million additional Americans obtain health insurance and drive uninsured rates to historic lows in many of those states.

The Alliance of Safety-Net Hospitals urges you to convey your support for Medicaid in general, and for these pillars of the Medicaid program in particular, to House Energy and Commerce Committee leaders and members, as we have already done in [this letter to committee leaders](#). Our community safety-net hospitals – and the tens of thousands of your constituents who benefit from Medicaid – greatly appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Kate Finkelstein
Director of Federal Government Relations