



Thursday, November 16, 2017

### **Oppose Cuts to Critical Access Hospitals**

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX) and Ranking Member Richard Neal (D-MA) yesterday released the outline of a [bipartisan agreement](#) to extend several Medicare payment programs, including the Medicare-dependent Hospital and Low-volume Adjustment programs. The Committee has not released legislative text of the agreement and several details remain unknown.

**However, the Committee's agreement references cuts to critical access hospitals as a way to pay for some provisions.**

**ACTION NEEDED: Please contact your legislators and ask them to oppose any cuts to rural hospitals.** This is the time when Congress should be looking to stabilize access to care, rather than cutting payments for critical health care services in our most vulnerable rural communities.

The AHA supports a straight extension of the MDH and LVA programs (S. 872/H.R. 1955), and the Ambulance Add-On program (S. 967/H.R. 3236).

For more information, please see the AHA's [fact sheet](#) and [infographic](#) on expiring Medicare provisions.