



Action Alert

December 19, 2017

Urge Your Lawmakers to Include in Year-end Legislation Key Policies Important to Hospitals and Health Systems

Contact your legislators today as action is expected this week

Congress is working on a stop-gap funding package for federal domestic programs as the current short-term measure funding the government expires Dec. 22. We sent a letter to representatives and senators today urging them to include in year-end legislation a number of policies important to hospitals and health systems, and the patients and communities we serve.

ACTION NEEDED: Please contact your legislators today and urge them to include the items below as part of the year-end funding legislation. In addition, please urge them to oppose any cuts to hospitals and health systems, including a proposed hospice transfer policy that would result in significant reductions to hospital reimbursement. See our [letter](#) for more information on each issue.

ISSUES TO INCLUDE IN YEAR-END SPENDING PACKAGE

Funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Extend CHIP funding for five years.

Eliminating Reductions to Medicaid Payments for Disproportionate Share Hospitals (DSH). Support eliminating the reductions to Medicaid payments for DSH in fiscal years 2018 and 2019.

Waiving PAY-GO cuts to Medicare. Waive PAY-GO to avert Medicare cuts of \$25 billion in 2018, and for many years thereafter.

Preventing cuts to the 340B drug savings program. Support H.R. 4392, which would provide relief from deep cuts to payments to hospitals participating in the 340B program.

Extending critical rural programs. Support straight extensions of the Medicare-dependent hospital and enhanced low-volume adjustment programs, which expired on Sept. 30.