

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 17, 2020

The Honorable Alex M. Azar II  
Secretary  
Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Azar,

Thank you for your department's efforts to distribute the \$100 billion fund provided under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for health care providers. We urge you to support Medicaid providers in the next tranche of funds to cover unreimbursed health care related expenses or lost revenues attributable to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

The CARES Act specifies that this funding should benefit all types of health care providers including hospitals, public entities, nonprofit entities, and Medicare and Medicaid enrolled suppliers and institutional providers. On April 10, 2020, your department began distributing an initial \$30 billion from this fund based on providers' share of 2019 Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursements.

We appreciate that hospitals on the front lines of this crisis received a large share of this desperately needed funding. However, health care providers in our districts with low Medicare volumes – including community health centers (CHCs), children's hospitals, and certain nonprofit health care providers– have also been greatly impacted by the COVID-19 emergency.

These providers desperately need more financial support to continue caring for our underserved communities. It is estimated that over the next six months due to COVID-19, CHCs will complete 34 million fewer regular appointments, leading to losses of \$7.6 billion in revenue and 100,500 jobs.<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, they are experiencing or preparing for a surge of patients requiring testing and treatment for COVID-19. While we support additional appropriations to meet these needs, we must ensure they receive their fair share of existing funds in the near term.

Your department has stated that it intends to distribute the remaining \$70 billion based on other criteria, including “providers of services with lower shares of Medicare reimbursement or who predominantly serve the Medicaid population.”<sup>2</sup> We express our support for swiftly allocating the next tranche of funds based on Medicaid volumes. Our providers cannot wait any longer for relief.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nachc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Financial-Loss-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.hhs.gov/provider-relief/index.html>

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



MIKE LEVIN  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JOE NEGUSE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
ALAN LOWENTHAL  
Member of Congress

/s/  
TONY CÁRDENAS  
Member of Congress

/s/  
BOBBY L. RUSH  
Member of Congress

/s/  
RUBEN GALLEGO  
Member of Congress

/s/  
AYANNA PRESSLEY  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JUAN VARGAS  
Member of Congress

/s/  
VICENTE GONZALEZ  
Member of Congress

/s/  
MIKE DOYLE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DAVID E. PRICE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JOHN B. LARSON  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DEBBIE MUCARSEL-POWELL  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JIM COSTA  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DANNY K. DAVIS  
Member of Congress

/s/  
PETER A. DEFAZIO  
Member of Congress

/s/  
HARLEY ROUDA  
Member of Congress

/s/  
KATIE PORTER  
Member of Congress

/s/  
TJ COX  
Member of Congress

/s/  
PETER WELCH  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DAVID N. CICILLINE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
CHRIS PAPPAS  
Member of Congress

/s/  
ELAINE G. LURIA  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JASON CROW  
Member of Congress

/s/  
MAX ROSE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
MARY GAY SCANLON  
Member of Congress

/s/  
FILEMON VELA  
Member of Congress

/s/  
GILBERT R. CISNEROS JR.  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JUDY CHU  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DOUG LAMBORN  
Member of Congress

/s/  
VERONICA ESCOBAR  
Member of Congress

/s/  
GREGORY W. MEEKS  
Member of Congress

/s/  
NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ  
Member of Congress

/s/  
XOCHITL TORRES SMALL  
Member of Congress

/s/  
EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress

/s/  
HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON JR.  
Member of Congress

/s/  
ANN MCLANE KUSTER  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JAMES P. MCGOVERN  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DINA TITUS  
Member of Congress

/s/  
ANTONIO DELGADO  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JAHANA HAYES  
Member of Congress

/s/  
STEPHEN F. LYNCH  
Member of Congress

/s/  
MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS  
Member of Congress

/s/  
SHEILA JACKSON LEE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
ED CASE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JAMES R. LANGEVIN  
Member of Congress

/s/  
WILLIAM R. KEATING  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DONALD M. PAYNE JR.  
Member of Congress

/s/  
SEAN PATRICK MALONEY  
Member of Congress

/s/  
TED W. LIEU  
Member of Congress

/s/  
RAÚL M. GRIJALVA  
Member of Congress

/s/  
CHELLIE PINGREE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JOSH HARDER  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DARREN SOTO  
Member of Congress

/s/  
TIM RYAN  
Member of Congress

/s/  
GWEN MOORE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
SUSAN WILD  
Member of Congress

/s/  
MARCIA L. FUDGE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
RASHIDA TLAIB  
Member of Congress

/s/  
MADELEINE DEAN  
Member of Congress

/s/  
FREDERICA S. WILSON  
Member of Congress

/s/  
ADRIANO ESPAILLAT  
Member of Congress

/s/  
DIANA DEGETTE  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, III  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JOSÉ E. SERRANO  
Member of Congress

/s/  
SCOTT PETERS  
Member of Congress

/s/  
ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JERRY MCNERNEY  
Member of Congress

/s/  
GERALD E. CONNOLLY  
Member of Congress

/s/  
JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA  
Member of Congress

/s/  
SUZANNE BONAMICI  
Member of Congress

/s/  
YVETTE D. CLARKE  
Member of Congress