

Enough with the Cuts!

\$1.3 BILLION IN WEST VIRGINIA HOSPITAL PAYMENT REDUCTIONS



America's hospitals are already absorbing \$155 billion in payment reductions during the first 10 years of national healthcare reform. West Virginia hospitals will see an estimated \$1.3 billion in payment reductions over the same 10-year period.

Hospitals provide critical services that no one else can. Yet hospitals are once again jeopardized by new and serious threats. The deficit-reduction plans being discussed in Washington, D.C. fail to consider this important reality:

Every day, Medicare and Medicaid already pay hospitals less than the cost of providing care. Hospitals in West Virginia provide more than \$720 million in unpaid care and the amount increases each year.

West Virginia's community hospitals are on the frontlines, providing life-saving care 24 hours a day, seven days a week to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay.

Any additional Medicare or Medicaid cuts to hospitals could result in threats to patient care:

- Necessary services being eliminated
- Increase challenges in recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals
- Longer waits for care, including emergency departments

No More Cuts to Hospital Care.

Hospitals are already doing more with less. There are other ways to reduce the deficit without hurting patient care.

Share this message with West Virginia's Congressional delegation.