

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 23, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader Schumer & Leader McConnell,

In these unprecedented times, Congress must act boldly and swiftly to ensure America's hospitals and health systems have the resources they need to bend the trajectory of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Reporting indicates that hospitals are working relentlessly to surge capacity and brace for an influx of COVID-19 patients. The brave front line health care providers - including hospitals, health systems, physicians and nurses - must receive a quick infusion of funding so they can take the necessary steps to combat COVID-19. The American Hospital Association, American Medical Association, and American Nurses Association, in consultation with hospitals around the country, have determined \$100 billion in direct funding to hospitals and health systems will be a necessary part of the next COVID-19 spending package. In order to meet the rapidly rising demands placed on our nation's healthcare system, we urge substantial direct funding to hospitals and health systems.

The nation's hospitals and health systems stand as our first line of defense against this unprecedented crisis. The expenses associated with responding to this crisis will be extraordinary, creating a significant cash flow problem. The full effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have yet to be felt, but already many hospitals and health care systems are facing staffing and bed challenges, an ever-increasing demand for testing, an influx of critically ill patients and a dwindling supply of medical equipment needed to care for these patients. If we do not act, the nation could see a series of hospital closures during our time of greatest need.

While we appreciate the desire to provide relief to other sectors of the economy in current and future COVID-19 spending legislation, the nation will not be able to function without a stable health care system. Congress must act now to provide our health care providers with the resources needed to meet the challenges we are facing today.

Sincerely,

Mike Quigley

David P. Joyce

Member of Congress
Mike Turner
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress

Jesús G. “Chuy” Garcia
Member of Congress

Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress

Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley P.E.

Member of Congress
Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

Vincente Gonzalez
Member of Congress

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress

Joe Neguse
Member of Congress

Anthony Gonzalez
Member of Congress

John Katko
Member of Congress

Brendan F. Boyle

Member of Congress

Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress

Susan W. Brooks
Member of Congress

Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress

Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress

Ken Calvert
Member of Congress

Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress

Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress

Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress

Cindy Axne
Member of Congress

Abby Finkenauer
Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Troy Balderson
Member of Congress

Don Young
Member of Congress

John B. Larson
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

Greg Gianforte
Member of Congress

Will Hurd
Member of Congress

Steve Stivers
Member of Congress

Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress

Albio Sires
Member of Congress

Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress

