



December 11, 2020

Please Sign Onto Bipartisan Letter to HHS Secretary Azar Seeking Changes in Provider Relief Fund Reporting Requirements

Dear Rep. Fitzpatrick:

The Safety-Net Association of Pennsylvania thanks you for signing a letter in October to Health and Human Services Secretary Azar about changes HHS announced in reporting requirements for the CARES Act's Provider Relief Fund that jeopardized the much-needed funding that Pennsylvania's private safety-net hospitals and others have received from that fund. While HHS did soften those new reporting requirements, SNAP believes even those revised requirements still pose a threat to private Pennsylvania safety-net hospitals at the very time these hospitals are fighting the latest surge in COVID-19 cases in their communities. For this reason, we are writing to ask you to sign another letter to Secretary Azar asking him to make still more changes in those Provider Relief Fund reporting requirements.

Accompanying this message is a copy of the bipartisan letter we ask you to sign. In it, the letter's sponsors outline the reporting requirements situation: the original guidance HHS gave to hospitals in June; how HHS proposed changing those requirements in September; and how the changes HHS ultimately made in October address some but not all of hospitals' concerns, leaving many hospitals still vulnerable to possible demands from HHS to return some of their Provider Relief Fund grants.

As currently structured, the Provider Relief Fund reporting requirements could harm many of Pennsylvania's safety-net hospitals. For this reason, we respectfully ask you to sign onto the attached bipartisan letter asking HHS and Secretary Azar to address this problem more appropriately. To do so, you can complete this [Google Form](#) by noon on Monday, December 14 or by contacting Faith Williams (faith.williams@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Levin's office or Kirsten Wing (kirsten.wing@mail.house.gov) in Rep. McKinley's office.

We appreciate your past assistance with this challenge and look forward to your continued support. Please let us know if you have any questions about this issue, its implications for Pennsylvania safety-net hospitals and others, or the remedy we seek.

Sincerely,

Kate Finkelstein
Legislative Liaison, Federal Affairs

