

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 23, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

The Honorable Mehmet Oz
Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy and Administrator Oz,

As the administration works to enact the Working Families Tax Cuts passed as part of H.R. 1, we write to express our strong support for the Rural Health Transformation Program. This program will provide targeted relief for rural hospitals and healthcare providers, ensuring they have the support necessary to continue delivering critical care.

The Rural Health Transformation Program allocates \$50 billion—split equally among the states and distributed at the agency’s discretion—to support rural health innovation, strengthen recruitment and training efforts, and enhance emergency medical services. We are confident this program will serve as a lifeline for rural and at-risk hospitals in our communities that are already struggling to keep their doors open.

As Republican Members of Congress from states with a Democrat Governor, we believe it is imperative that the program be implemented fairly so that funding is allocated specifically to rural healthcare providers, rather than diverted to urban centers that do not face the same challenges. During the approval process of state applications, we urge HHS and CMS to ensure funds are distributed to rural communities with the greatest need, making rural America healthy again regardless of political affiliation.

The Rural Health Transformation Program will make significant investments in rural healthcare that will benefit our communities for generations to come. We look forward to working with you to promote the efficient and equitable allocation of funds to rural healthcare providers. Together, we can help this vital program fulfill its mission to strengthen rural healthcare and protect the health of our most vulnerable communities.

Sincerely,



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



Gabe Evans
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress



Juan Ciscomani
Member of Congress



Brad Finstad
Member of Congress



Jay Obernolte
Member of Congress



Michael Baumgartner
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress