

November 15, 2019

Mrs. Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Bldg
Washington, D.C. 20515

Mr. Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

We are writing to ask you to lead the way toward passage of a two-year elimination of reductions to state Medicaid disproportionate share (Medicaid DSH) allotments mandated by the Affordable Care Act.

These Medicaid DSH cuts were adopted based on the assumption that the 2010 health care law would greatly reduce the number of uninsured Americans, and while that number has declined, it has not fallen as much as anticipated. Nearly 30 million Americans, including 2.9 million Californians, remain without health insurance. In addition, last year marked the first time since the law's implementation that the number of uninsured Americans actually increased – yet another sign that the law's promise has not yet been fulfilled.

The Medicaid DSH cuts scheduled to take effect in FY 2020, delayed temporarily by the current Continuing Resolution, would be devastating: \$4 billion in reduced Medicaid DSH allotments in FY 2020 and \$8 billion a year in cuts from FY 2021 through FY 2025. For California, that translates into a loss of approximately \$500 million in Medicaid DSH payments to eligible hospitals in FY 2020 alone and about \$950 million a year from FY 2021 through FY 2025.

Medicaid DSH is an essential funding source helping safety-net hospitals serve the uninsured and underinsured residents of their communities. They help offset the cost of the uncompensated care these hospitals provide while also facilitating outreach to rural or underserved communities and ensuring the continued ability of these hospitals to meet the health care needs of those communities. Cuts of the magnitude projected could jeopardize access to care for millions – not only the uninsured and individuals on Medicaid but also those who rely on the system's essential primary care, specialty, and tertiary services.

Congress has acknowledged the importance of Medicaid DSH to supporting the American health care safety net and has never permitted the reduction of DSH allotments to take effect. The conditions that led Congress to these decisions are still very much in evidence today, and for this reason the undersigned urge you to ensure passage of a two-year elimination of cuts to Medicaid

DSH allotments. The millions of Americans whose care is supported by these payments are counting on it.

Sincerely,



Paul Cook
United States Representative (CA-8)



Josh Harder
United States Representative (CA-10)



Jared Huffman
United States Representative (CA-2)



John Garamendi
United States Representative (CA-3)



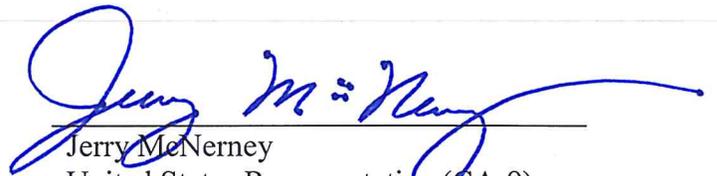
Mike Thompson
United States Representative (CA-5)



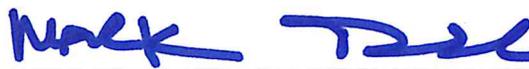
Doris Matsui
United States Representative (CA-6)



Ami Bera
United States Representative (CA-7)



Jerry McNerney
United States Representative (CA-9)



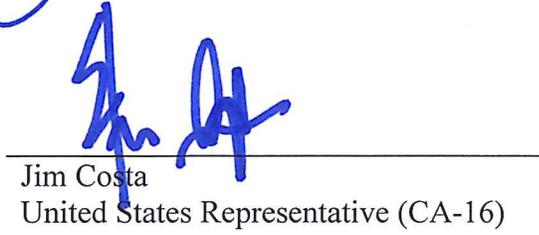
Mark DeSaulnier
United States Representative (CA-11)

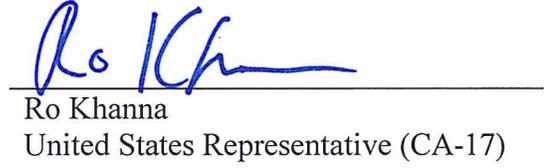


Barbara Lee
United States Representative (CA-13)


Jackie Speier
United States Representative (CA-14)

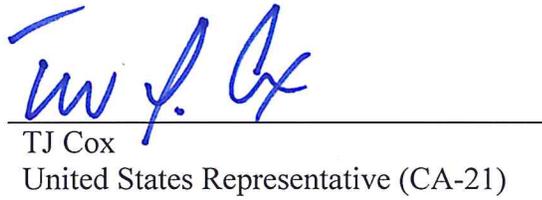

Eric Swalwell
United States Representative (CA-15)

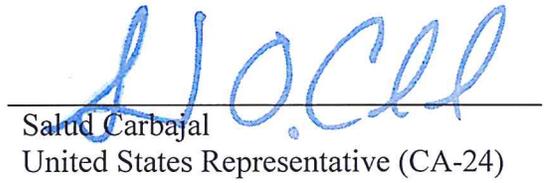

Jim Costa
United States Representative (CA-16)

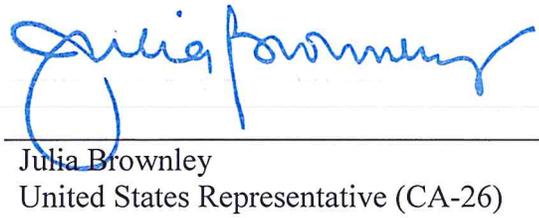

Ro Khanna
United States Representative (CA-17)

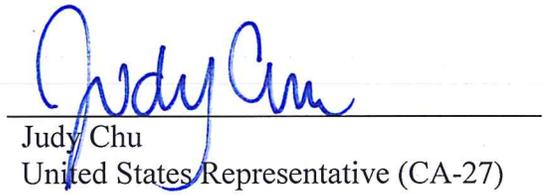

Zoe Lofgren
United States Representative (CA-19)

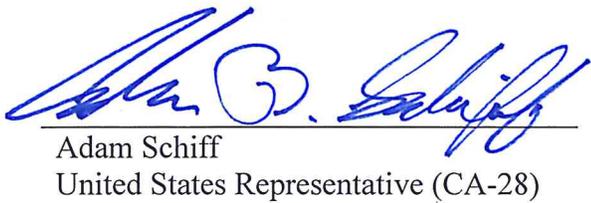

Jimmy Panetta
United States Representative (CA-20)


TJ Cox
United States Representative (CA-21)


Salud Carbajal
United States Representative (CA-24)


Julia Brownley
United States Representative (CA-26)

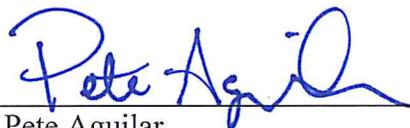

Judy Chu
United States Representative (CA-27)


Adam Schiff
United States Representative (CA-28)

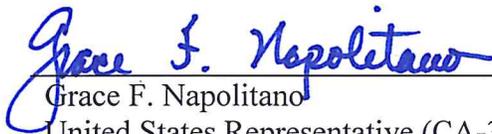

Tony Cardenas
United States Representative (CA-29)



Brad Sherman
United States Representative (CA-30)



Pete Aguilar
United States Representative (CA-31)



Grace F. Napolitano
United States Representative (CA-32)



Ted W. Lieu
United States Representative (CA-33)



Jimmy Gomez
United States Representative (CA-34)



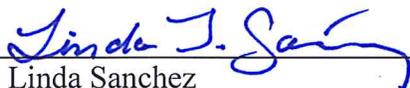
Norma Torres
United States Representative (CA-35)



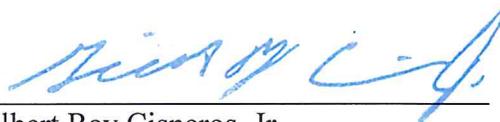
Raul Ruiz
United States Representative (CA-36)



Karen Bass
United States Representative (CA-37)



Linda Sanchez
United States Representative (CA-38)



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
United States Representative (CA-39)



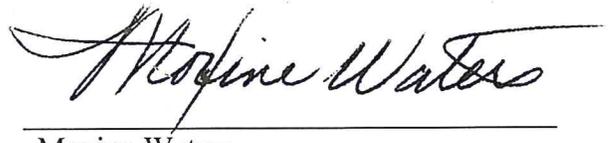
Lucille Roybal-Allard
United States Representative (CA-40)



Mark Takano
United States Representative (CA-41)



Ken Calvert
United States Representative (CA-42)



Maxine Waters
United States Representative (CA-43)



Nanette Diaz Barragan
United States Representative (CA-44)



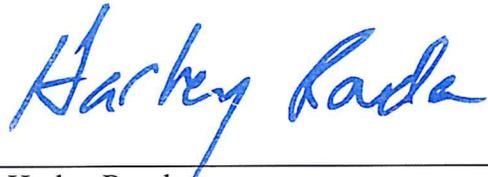
Katie Porter
United States Representative (CA-45)



J. Luis Correa
United States Representative (CA-46)



Alan Lowenthal
United States Representative (CA-47)



Harley Rouda
United States Representative (CA-48)



Mike Levin
United States Representative (CA-49)



Duncan Hunter
United States Representative (CA-50)



Juan Vargas
United States Representative (CA-51)



Scott Peters
United States Representative (CA-52)



Susan Davis
United States Representative (CA-53)



Doug LaMalfa
United States Representative (CA-1)