

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

October 9, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY:

The Honorable Alex M. Azar, II
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201-1114

Dear Secretary Azar:

We write today with concerns regarding the Post-Payment Notice of Reporting Requirements published on September 19, 2020. We have grave concerns this change in reporting requirements for funds received from the Provider Relief Fund (PRF) will create uncertainty and financial hardship for hospitals in our states, particularly in rural areas. In the midst of the COVID19 pandemic, our health care providers need more certainty, not less.

The CARES Act, enacted in March 2020, established the PRF to reimburse eligible health care providers for health care-related expenses and lost revenues attributable to the coronavirus. Hospitals and other providers received funds and have budgeted accordingly. However, we are still in the midst of a pandemic and providers continue to face uncertainty in terms of loss of revenue from delayed procedures and care as well as increased expenses related to COVID 19.

Based upon the impact of these changes to access to health care, we urge you to carefully consider any policies that disproportionately affect rural and safety net hospitals.

Sincerely,

/s/ Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator

/s/ John Barrasso
United States Senator

/s/ John Boozman
United States Senator

/s/ Richard Burr
United States Senator

/s/ Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator

/s/ Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

/s/ John Cornyn
United States Senator

/s/ Kevin Cramer
United States Senator

/s/ Mike Crapo
United States Senator

/s/ Steve Daines
United States Senator

/s/ Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator

/s/ Deb Fischer
United States Senator

/s/ Cory Gardner
United States Senator

/s/ Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator

/s/ Josh Hawley
United States Senator

/s/ Cindy Hyde-Smith
United States Senator

/s/ James M. Inhofe
United States Senator

/s/ Kelly Loeffler
United States Senator

/s/ Joe Manchin III
United States Senator

/s/ Jerry Moran
United States Senator

/s/ Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

/s/ David A. Perdue
United States Senator

/s/ James E. Risch
United States Senator

/s/ M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator

/s/ Marco Rubio
United States Senator

/s/ Tim Scott
United States Senator

/s/ Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator

/s/ Dan Sullivan
United States Senator

/s/ John Thune
United States Senator

/s/ Thom Tillis
United States Senator

/s/ Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator

