



August 22, 2017

**ILLINOIS HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
FEDERAL ADVOCACY ALERT**

TO: Chief Executive Officers, Small & Rural Hospital Members
Chief Financial Officers
Government Relations Personnel

FROM: A.J. Wilhelmi, President & CEO
David Gross, Senior Vice President, Government Relations
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SUBJECT: Urge Your Members of Congress to Support Rural Medicare Extenders

Funding for the Medicare-dependent Hospital and enhanced Low-volume Adjustment programs expires on Sept. 30, 2017. The Rural Hospital Access Act (H.R. 1955/S. 872) has been introduced in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House and would make these programs permanent if enacted into law.

When Congress returns to Washington in September, they will have many issues to deal with before the end of the federal fiscal year. It is critical that broad bi-partisan support for H.R. 1955/S. 872 be demonstrated to show lawmakers the need to move quickly on this legislation.

Action requested: Contact or meet with your member of Congress and ask them to support the Rural Hospital Access Act. To send emails to or call your U.S. Representative and Senators, [click here](#).

To help support your advocacy efforts, see a [fact sheet](#) on the Rural Medicare Extenders, including the Medicare-dependent Hospital and Low-volume Adjustment programs. Also see [IHA's letter](#) to the Congressional Delegation.