

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN HOSPITALS

Press statement

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HOUSE BUDGET PROPOSAL RAISES DEEP CONCERNS

(The following statement was released today by Chip Kahn, President and CEO of the Federation of American Hospitals.)

The FAH is deeply concerned about the House Budget Committee's proposed budget resolution. This budget would make it difficult for hospitals to meet the health care needs of seniors and the most vulnerable in our communities. It would do away with needed coverage expansions, and would worsen already significant Medicare and Medicaid underpayments to hospitals.

Hospitals are committed to meeting the health care and economic needs of our communities, but the needed coverage expansions must be maintained, and the Federal government must do its part by providing fair and appropriate payments. The House budget proposal undermines these key requirements and threatens hospitals' ability to maintain our commitment to our communities and our patients.

We look forward to working with the Congress to develop good public policy that balances the need to get our nation's fiscal house in order with the need to maintain access to essential health care services for our most vulnerable citizens.

The Federation of American Hospitals is the national representative of investor-owned or managed hospitals and health systems. Our members include general community and teaching hospitals in urban and rural areas as well as rehabilitation, long-term, cancer and psychiatric hospitals.