



June 18, 2025

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
United States Senate  
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Thune  
United States Senate  
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Crapo and Majority Leader Thune:

On behalf of Georgia's hospitals, we are writing to raise significant concerns about the Senate Finance Committee's reconciliation proposal. As currently drafted, the bill would devastate rural health care in Georgia, placing dozens of hospitals at risk of closure and cutting off communities from lifesaving services.

Georgia's 66 rural hospitals serve as the only access point for emergency care, labor and delivery, and other critical services across large parts of our state. The closure of these hospitals would not only endanger patients—it would also eliminate more than 16,000 rural healthcare jobs and unravel local economies that depend on hospitals as their primary economic driver. When a hospital closes, schools, small businesses, and entire communities suffer.

Georgia's Medicaid financing system, alongside other states, utilizes provider-funded payments and state-directed payment programs for hospitals and other providers. These programs support access to care across our state, and while not every rural hospital receives these state-directed payments directly, they benefit significantly through the reallocation of safety net support made possible by this structure. The Senate proposal to cap provider taxes and restrict these payments would upend that balance, threatening the financial stability of every type of hospital in Georgia—from large teaching institutions to small rural facilities. Furthermore, Georgia's programs are advancing value-based delivery systems in measurable ways.

Medicaid already pays well below the cost of care. Further reductions - especially through blunt limits on state flexibility - would lead to fewer services, workforce cuts, and real harm to patients.

We urge you to reject these changes and instead preserve the House-passed provisions that sustain Georgia's rural hospitals and the communities they serve. GHA stands ready to serve as a partner on meaningful solutions that reduce federal spending without cutting off care for those who need it most.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caylee Noggle", written in a cursive style.

Caylee B. Noggle  
President and CEO

**Georgia Hospital Association**

380 Interstate North Parkway SE, Suite 150, Atlanta, Georgia 30339  
Phone: 770-249-4500 | [www.gha.org](http://www.gha.org)



CC:

The Honorable Jon Ossoff, US Senate  
The Honorable Raphael Warnock, US Senate  
The Honorable Rick Allen, US House District 12  
The Honorable Sanford Bishop, US House District 2  
The Honorable Buddy Carter, US House District 1  
The Honorable Andrew Clyde, US House District 9  
The Honorable Mike Collins, US House District 10  
The Honorable Marjorie Taylor Greene, US House District 14  
The Honorable Brian Jack, US House District 3  
The Honorable Hank Johnson, US House District 4  
The Honorable Barry Loudermilk, US House District 11  
The Honorable Lucy McBath, US House District 6  
The Honorable Rich McCormick, US House District 7  
The Honorable Austin Scott, US House District 8  
The Honorable David Scott, US House District 13  
The Honorable Nikema Williams, US House District 5

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