



**American Hospital  
Association**

# ADVOCACY UPDATE

## *Action Alert!*

Tuesday, November 6, 2007

**NEED ACTION FROM .....** *Hospital leaders*  
**ACTION .....** *Urge your House member to sign  
Tubbs Jones/Porter letter to IRS*  
**WHEN .....** *Immediately*  
**HOW .....** *Call or e-mail your representative*  
**WHY .....** *Sponsors of letter accepting signatures  
for one additional day*

### **IRS LETTER SPONSORS ACCEPTING ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES THROUGH TODAY**

***274 signatures so far ... Has your representative signed?***

There is still time to make sure your House member has signed the important letter to the IRS that is being distributed for signatures by Reps. Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH) and Jon Porter (R-NV). Tubbs Jones and Porter will continue accepting commitments from House members who want to sign the letter through today. The letter urges the IRS to improve the new Schedule H reporting form for tax-exempt hospitals by including the full value of community benefits hospitals provide, including Medicare shortfalls and bad debt, and eliminating reporting burdens unrelated to compliance.

**A list of those who have signed is attached. If your representative is not among them, please contact his or her office today and let them know this is their last chance to sign this very important letter!**

**Why is full-value reporting critical?** Some in Washington want to impose a rigid threshold - at least 5% of expenses going to community benefit - for hospitals to retain their tax-exempt status. Schedule H could become the platform for policymakers at all levels of government to make their own judgments about how much community benefit is sufficient and what fines or other penalties a tax-exempt hospital would face for failing to meet a particular percentage threshold. That is why it is essential that Schedule H reflect the full value of the benefits hospitals provide to their communities.

***Last chance to sign the Tubbs Jones – Porter IRS letter!  
Has your representative signed?***

***(Call 1-877-242-2240 or e-mail [AHAadvocacy@aha.org](mailto:AHAadvocacy@aha.org)  
to let us know how your Hill contacts go ... thanks!)***