

Enough is Enough.



The deficit-reduction plans being floated around Washington these days fail to consider an important reality:

America's hospitals are already absorbing \$155 billion in payment reductions. And every single day, Medicare and Medicaid pay hospitals less than the cost of providing care.

Hospitals provide critical services that no one else can. Yet hospitals are once again jeopardized by new and serious threats:

- Weakening the safety net for the millions of low-income children, seniors and Americans with disabilities by interfering with states' existing ability to spend Medicaid funds wisely;
- Limiting the training of new physicians at a time when we face an across-the-board shortage of physicians to care for children, the newly-covered and baby boomers entering Medicare;
- Increasing hospitals' uncompensated care burden.

Any additional cuts to hospitals could result in threats to patient care:

- Services eliminated;
- Longer waits for care;
- ERs shut down;
- Staffing reduced.

Hospitals are already doing more with less. There are other ways to reduce the deficit — don't hurt patient care.

No More Cuts to Hospital Care.

