### What’s at Stake?

Without action from Congress, critical programs that protect health care in rural communities will expire.

- The Medicare-dependent Hospital program expires Dec. 16.
- The enhanced Low-volume Adjustment program expires Dec. 16.
- The ambulance add-on payment program expires Dec. 31.

### Why it’s Important?

These programs have bipartisan support and are critical for rural hospitals and their ability to provide quality, accessible care in their communities.

- Rural hospitals overall provide essential health care services to nearly 57 million people and are often the only source of care in the community.
- Every dollar spent by a rural hospital produces another $2.29 of economic activity.
- More than 680 rural hospitals across the country would be negatively impacted by the expiration of these programs, threatening patient access to care.

### What’s the Solution?

Urge your Members of Congress to protect these vital rural programs by cosponsoring:

- The Rural Hospital Support Act (S.4009) & the Assistance for Rural Community Hospitals Act (H.R.8747), which would extend the Medicare-dependent Hospital and enhanced Low-volume Adjustment programs; and
- The Protecting Access to Ground Ambulance Medical Services Act of 2021 (S.2037/H.R.2454) which would extend the ambulance add-on payment adjustment.

And most importantly, urge your lawmakers to include these critical rural extenders in any "must-pass" legislation moving through Congress.