

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 29, 2021

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra:

Thank you for your continued attention to the needs of health care providers as our country continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I write today to urge the immediate provision of Provider Relief Funds to rural clinics and hospitals and other rural health care providers in Georgia and nationwide.

To support health care providers across the country during this time, Congress has appropriated \$178 billion for the Provider Relief Fund (PRF) to reimburse eligible providers for health care-related expenses or lost revenue as a result to the pandemic.

In May, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) noted approximately \$24 billion remained in the fund to date.

As of today, those funds remain unallocated.

Additionally, the American Rescue Plan authorized \$8.5 billion for rural health care providers to address expenses and lost revenues attributable to COVID-19. These funds have also not been allocated, nor have rural providers been informed how to apply for those funds.

I write today to urge the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to immediately disburse the funds that have been authorized and provide more information to rural health care providers. These clinics and other health care providers continue to require support as our country responds to the ongoing pandemic.

Thank you for your swift attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



JON OSSOFF
United States Senator

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AND URBAN AFFAIRS

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