

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 4, 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 safety net hospitals 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, that money remains unallocated.

I write today to urge the Department of Health and Human Services to immediately disburse the funds that have been authorized. Further, I urge a significant portion of the remaining funds be for targeted allocations to providers most in need, particularly those which serve a disproportionate share of Medicaid and uninsured patients.

Safety net hospitals like Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, Ga. have been on the front lines of the pandemic from its earliest days and continue to face hardships as a direct result of COVID-19 and the emerging variants.

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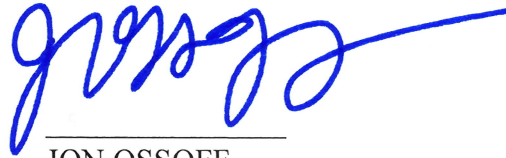
CHAIR, PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE
ON INVESTIGATIONS

OSSOFF.SENATE.GOV

I urge you to promptly disburse the remaining funds in a targeted manner to hospitals and health systems that are in urgent financial need and that serve communities hardest hit by this pandemic.

Thank you for your swift attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon Ossoff", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JON OSSOFF
United States Senator