



April 2, 2025

The Honorable Tina S. McKinnor
Chair, State Assembly Committee on Public Employment and Retirement
1020 N Street, Room 153
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AJR-3 (Schiavo) – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember McKinnor:

California's hospitals and health systems are on the front lines of patient care, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of income, have access to essential health services. Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid are critical to the financial and physical well-being of Californians, particularly seniors, individuals with disabilities, low-income families, and children. These programs are foundational to California's health care system and serve as a vital safety net for our most vulnerable residents.

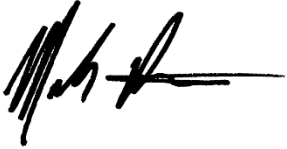
Assembly Joint Resolution 3 (AJR-3) highlights the indispensable role these programs play in the state's communities. Medicare delivers life-saving medical care to more than 6 million Californians, enabling them to receive necessary treatments, preventive services, and hospital care. Meanwhile, Medicaid — through Medi-Cal — offers comprehensive health coverage to nearly 15 million Californians, including seniors, individuals with disabilities, and working families who otherwise could not afford coverage.

Proposals that threaten to cut or limit federal funding for these programs are deeply concerning. Such measures would place significant strain on California's hospitals, making it more difficult to deliver high-quality care to all who need it. Additionally, reducing access to these programs will have a profound impact on public health, forcing more people to delay or forgo necessary medical care, which leads to worse health outcomes and higher costs for the entire health care system.

For these reasons, the California Hospital Association, on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, supports AJR-3, which urges the protection and strengthening of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid — three essential programs that provide economic and health security to millions of Californians.

AJR-3 sends a clear message to Congress and the President: These programs must be protected — not cut or weakened. Hospitals strongly urge your support of AJR-3 and stand ready to work alongside you to ensure the continued stability and success of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid for all Californians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Farouk', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Farouk
Vice President, State Advocacy
California Hospital Association

Cc: The Honorable Pilar Schiavo
The Honorable Members of the Committee on Public Employment and Retirement
Michael A. Bolden, Chief Consultant, Committee on Public Employment and Retirement