**Sample Press Release Template**

**[Hospital Name] Hosts Visit by Rep. [Insert Name], Hospital Leaders Seek Help from Lawmakers in Preserving Access to Care in [Name of Community]**

**CITY (DATE)** — Administrators and staff of [HOSPITAL NAME] met today with Rep. [NAME] to share information on how Congress can help preserve lifesaving access to patient care in [NAME OF COMMUNITY].

“We appreciate Rep. [NAME] taking time to meet with our team and learn more about the work we are doing to improve the health and wellbeing of our community,” said [NAME/ TITLE of HOSPITAL LEADER]. “We shared information about several important programs we offer our community including[INSERT EXAMPLES OF UNIQUE/IMPORTANT PROGRAMS/SERVICES HOSPITAL PROVIDES].And, we had an open and honest conversation about the financial and operational challenges facing not only our hospital, but hospitals across California and throughout the country.”

According to [HOSPITAL CEO NAME**]**, the biggest driver of the financial pressures facing hospitalsis that government payers — Medicare and Medicaid — don’t cover the actual cost of caring for patients. This is a national trend that is resulting in many hospitals having to reduce or close some health care services. At [NAME OF HOSPITAL], difficult decisions around [XXXX] and [XXXX]may need to be made unless these reimbursement rates are increased to better align with the actual cost of care.

[INSERT OPTIONAL QUOTE FROM REPRESENTATIVE]

[AS APPROPRIATE, INSERT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING:

* Medicare Site Neutral Payments
* 340B
* Medicaid DSH Cuts
* Rural Health Care
* Prior Authorization]

[INSERT IF APPROPRIATE]

As part of [his/her] visit, Rep. [NAME] toured [INSERT HOSPITAL NAME’S PATIENT CARE UNITS TOURED]. [INSERT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON: # Patients Served, Unique Services in the Community, etc].

* more —

During the visit, hospital leaders also highlighted various community benefit programs, including [EXAMPLES HERE], as well as ongoing quality of care initiatives, workforce challenges, and other critical community health care concerns.

[INSERT HOSPITAL BOILERPLATE LANGUAGE]

 **#####**