TEMPLATE LETTER FOR Members of Congress and Senators Padilla and Butler

 PLEASE PLACE ON HOSPITAL LETTERHEAD AND ADD HOSPITAL-SPECIFIC DETAILS

March XX, 2024

**Subject:** **Change Healthcare Cyberattack Impacts California Hospitals and Their Patients**

Dear [INSERT Name of Elected Official]:

As the nation’s health care system continues to be affected by the ongoing cyberattack on Change Healthcare, NAME OF YOUR HOSPITAL/HEALTH SYSTEM urges you to take action to support hospitals and other providers to help minimize further fallout from this attack.

Change Healthcare is the predominant source of more than 100 critical functions that keep the health care system operating. Among them, Change Healthcare manages the clinical criteria used to authorize a substantial portion of patient care and coverage, processes billions of claims, supports clinical information exchange, and processes drug prescriptions. As a result, patient care is being disrupted and billions of dollars have stopped flowing to providers, thereby threatening the financial viability of hospitals, health systems, physician offices and other providers.

INSERT HOSPITAL-SPECIFIC IMPACTS OF CHANGE HEALTHCARE CYBERATTACK, FINANCIAL AND/OR DIRECT PATIENT CARE IMPACTS; STAFF TIME, LACK OF PAYMENT, etc

This is a developing situation and we want you to be aware of the serious risk this cyberattack will place on access to care in your community. Our needs will be ongoing and changing.

For today, we request you support policies that will mitigate the impact of this attack and provide resources to hospitals and providers so that they can continue fulfilling their mission of caring for patients and communities. This includes calling on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to direct the Medicare Administrative Contractors to prioritize and expedite review and approval of hospital requests for Medicare accelerated payments. We also urge Congress to consider and address statutory limitations that prevent federal agencies from offering hospitals the flexibilities needed in this difficult time.

INSERT HOSPITAL/HEALTH SYSTEM NAME appreciates your attention to the impacts of this unprecedented attack on our health care system and the patients we care for.

INSERT SIGNATURE LINE