TEMPLATE LETTER – Please place on hospital letterhead and add hospital-specific details

July XX, 2020

Transmitted Electronically

Dear Representative/Senator:

On behalf of our XXX employees, our patients, and our community, HOSPITAL NAME appreciates the hard work you have done to help protect Californians during this pandemic. This unprecedented public health emergency requires unprecedented actions, and we write with both gratitude and a request for additional assistance.

At HOSPITAL NAME, like others around the nation, we have worked tirelessly to prepare and adapt to care for COVID-19 patients. As we work to support our nurses, doctors, and other health care heroes, we have purchased supplies, retrained employees, and reorganized our facility to ensure we are ready to serve our community. Many of these supplies are hard to find and, when we do find them, they command as much as 10 times the normal price and shipping costs. We have built surge space, tracked down testing kits, and worked to secure medications and other supplies to care for the critically ill. The investments we have made are extraordinary, and we are putting them into practice during this summer surge in California. SPECIFIC EXAMPLES.

In addition to our efforts and expenses to prepare, we stopped or drastically reduced performing any non-essential services. These services are a significant portion of our normal revenue, and we are now in a financial as well as a health crisis. We do not expect that revenue to return; babies born at home in April will not be born in the hospital in September.

Congress acted swiftly to establish and fund the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund, and we are grateful. However, the first few distributions have been based on formulas that do not offer appropriate recognition of the investments we have made or the revenue we have lost. In fact, we have received only $XXX and estimate our investment and lost revenue to be more than $XXXX. California hospitals have received just 4.8% of federal funds distributed to date and, as you know, our state makes up 12% of the nation’s population.

As you work on additional relief for our country, please keep in mind that successful reopening of the economy will depend on the security of the health care safety net provided by hospitals like HOSPITAL NAME. Hospitals around the state and nation are suffering dramatic financial losses that threaten the health care infrastructure, and access to care. Hospitals must be prioritized in the distribution of funds to ensure our services remain available.

ADD ADDITIONAL COMMENTS on other priorities outlined in CHA’s letter to the delegation that are pertinent to your hospital: liability protections, FMAP, MFAR, etc.

Thank you again for your commitment to HOSPITAL NAME and our patients.

Sincerely,

NAME, TITLE, CONTACT INFORMATION