

DIANNE FEINSTEIN  
CALIFORNIA



United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

August 27, 2021

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As California continues to navigate the tremendous challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, I write to ask that you release the remaining balance of the Provider Relief Fund so that California hospitals remain financially viable going forward.

California's hospitals have experienced some of the worst this pandemic has had to offer. And yet, according to the California Hospital Association, California hospitals have only received \$8.6 billion in federal funding despite incurring an estimated \$15.6 billion in financial losses for 2020 and 2021 due to increased expenses and lost revenue related to the pandemic. Furthermore, California's hospitals in the second half of 2020 and early 2021 experienced longer surges than other states with more patients, but have yet to receive the same funding support as states whose surges occurred in early 2020.

This is an issue of major concern to me and the state, and I very much appreciate your consideration. I would be happy to discuss this matter further as needed, and thank you so much for your leadership during this incredibly difficult time. As always, I stand ready to help in any way I can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianne Feinstein".

The Honorable Xavier Becerra  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
Washington, D.C. 20201