



Charles N. Kahn III
President

June 27, 2007

Rep. Earl Pomeroy
U.S. House of Representatives
1501 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Greg Walden
U.S. House of Representatives
1210 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Pomeroy and Walden:

The Federation of American Hospitals (FAH), representing America's investor-owned hospitals and health systems, is pleased to support the Health Care Access and Rural Equity (H-Care) Act of 2007.

As you know, to be able to provide high-quality community care, rural hospitals must contend with a unique set of financial and workforce challenges and, for far too long, they have been shortchanged by the Medicare program. We are particularly pleased your legislation would equalize the Medicare DSH payments to rural hospitals. Through your leadership, we hope that rural hospitals throughout the nation will soon get vitally needed payment equity, enabling them to continue to provide high-quality hospital care that Medicare beneficiaries in rural communities expect and deserve.

We commend you for recognizing the health care challenges in rural America and for your commitment to help rural hospitals secure the resources to provide care for Medicare beneficiaries. We look forward to working with you and other Members of Congress to get this important legislation passed into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Kahn III".