

## Wednesday, October 11, 2017

## Urge Your Legislators to Extend Critical Rural Programs

Please contact your legislators and ask them to cosponsor the bipartisan Rural Hospital Access Act (S. 872/H.R. 1955) to extend permanently the Medicare-dependent hospital and enhanced low-volume adjustment programs, which expired on Sept. 30. In addition, urge lawmakers to include these critical rural extenders in any "must-pass" legislation moving through Congress in the coming weeks.

The legislation, introduced by Sens. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Charles Schumer (D-NY), and Reps. Tom Reed (R-NY) and Peter Welch (D-VT), permanently extends both the MDH and LVA programs. Strong support for these bills is needed to send the message that these critical rural programs must be protected.

Check if your <u>senators</u> and <u>representative</u> are cosponsors of S. 872/H.R. 1955, and for additional information on these programs, please see the AHA's <u>fact sheet</u> on expiring Medicare provisions.