



**American Hospital
Association®**

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February 14, 2018

Honorable Randy Hultgren
United States House of Representatives
2455 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Hultgren:

On behalf of our nearly 5,000 member hospitals, health systems and other health care organizations, and our clinician partners – including more than 270,000 affiliated physicians, 2 million nurses and other caregivers – and the 43,000 health care leaders who belong to our professional membership groups, the American Hospital Association (AHA) commends you for introducing legislation to restore the tax exemption for advance refunding bonds that was repealed in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

Tax-exempt advance refunding bonds were an important financing tool that allowed 501(c)(3) hospitals to respond to credit market conditions to reduce the cost of capital. They have resulted in billions of dollars of savings for hospitals and the health care system. Loss of the ability to restructure debt with tax-exempt advance refundings will divert resources from patient care and could diminish access to needed health care services.

Again, we are pleased to support this legislation and look forward to working with you and your colleagues to achieve its passage.

Sincerely,

/s/

Tom Nickels
Executive Vice President

