

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 25, 2017

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker of the House
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi,

As Members committed to strengthening access to quality health care in our communities, we write to urge you to expeditiously bring H.R. 3770, the Community Health Investment, Modernization, and Excellence Act (CHIME Act) of 2017 to the floor for a vote before September 30th.

As you know, community health centers face a 70% slash in federal funding if Congress does not act before September 30th. According to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the impact of not renewing funding will be devastating to communities across the country: 2,800 Health Center locations would close, some 51,000 jobs would be eliminated, and 9 million people would be at risk of losing care.

As bipartisan original cosponsors of this critical legislation, we understand how families rely on community health centers for access to care. CHC's are often the backbone of care in some areas, especially in rural communities with limited health infrastructure. Our bill extends funding for CHC's for five years with modest annual increases to invest in the care available to families.

Patients and providers are looking to Congress to act to ensure their care is not disrupted. We stand ready to work with you to provide long-term stability to children and families who rely on community health centers for their health and economic security by passing the CHIME Act.

Sincerely,



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



Elise Stefanik
Member of Congress



David Young
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress