

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0552

December 20, 2017

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

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

Dear Honorable Ryan and Honorable Pelosi,

We write to you today as strong champions of our nation's Community Health Centers. As you know community health centers provide high-quality primary and preventive care to more than 27 million patients nationwide, including 4 million patients in California. We want to express our steadfast commitment to working with you on a bipartisan basis to extend critical funding that supports health centers on a long-term basis in the upcoming Continuing Resolution (CR).

We are fully aware that we have many significant issues in need of our attention in just a matter of days but one thing we must prioritize is the extension of funding for the Community Health Centers Program. If we don't act, health centers will face a 70% reduction in federal support in just 11 days. According to estimates from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), that level of reduction would lead to closure of roughly 2,800 health center locations, loss of more than 50,000 jobs, and most importantly, a loss of access to care for 9 million patients.

Our constituents in California, and across the country, deserve better.

It is our sincere hope that you will not forget community health centers as you work to find bipartisan agreement to funding the government before the expiration of the current CR. That is why we write you to urge you to continue to work to find bipartisan agreement on extending the Community Health Centers Program with offsets that we all can support. Please do all you can to ensure that Community Health Centers, and the millions of patients who find a medical home there, will be made whole with at least a 2-year reauthorization.

With so much uncertainty in our health care system, let's build on consensus and build on success. I appreciate your Leadership on this issue, and I am ready to work with you and all of my colleagues in this body to ensure health centers have the necessary resources to continue their important work now and for many years to come.

Sincerely,

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SCOTT PETERS  
Member of Congress

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SUSAN DAVIS  
Member of Congress

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RAUL RUIZ  
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

CC:  
The Honorable Kamala Harris  
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
The Honorable Ken Calvert