



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

January 15, 2026

Congressman Derrick Van Orden  
1513 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Hospital Assessments and Access Payments

Dear Congressman Van Orden:

We are state legislators representing portions of Wisconsin's 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional district, and we write to request your help in ensuring Wisconsin hospitals receive the full allotment of hospital funding our communities were promised and are owed.

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 you sent a letter to Governor Evers regarding the state's biennial budget stating: "As you are aware, timely enactment is especially critical this year due to the proposed increase in the state provider tax, which must be effectuated before the anticipated signing of the One, Big, Beautiful Bill on or around July 4, 2025." You further stated "Wisconsin will immediately receive a \$500,000,000 plus up for rural healthcare infrastructure, and an additional billion dollars annually for healthcare in our great state."

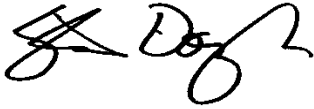
As you know, the Wisconsin state budget was passed by the State Senate and State Assembly on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, and was signed into law on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, before the signing of the One, Big, Beautiful Bill which was signed on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Unfortunately, the Trump administration is currently moving forward with an unprecedented action to deny Wisconsin's ability to draw down the additional promised hospital assessment dollars, which will cost our state nearly \$800 million every biennium.

Our hospitals, and especially our rural hospitals were counting on that funding to keep their doors open. This increased funding is needed to help hospitals sustain and expand access to care for patients across Wisconsin when one-third of the state's hospitals are operating at a deficit, driven by \$1.6 billion in losses from Medicaid reimbursement.

At a time when our medical institutions are facing unprecedented financial challenges, we must do everything we can to ensure their ability to continue to operate. Our state budget was counting on it, and our constituents' lives literally depend on it. We implore you to do everything in your power to reverse these catastrophic decisions.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our request, and please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions or want to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,



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Representative Steve Doyle  
94<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



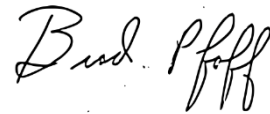
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Representative Jill Billings  
95<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



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Representative Tara Johnson  
96<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



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Senator Brad Pfaff  
32<sup>nd</sup> Senate District



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Representative Jodi Emerson  
91<sup>st</sup> Assembly District



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Representative Christian Phelps  
93<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District



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Representative Vincent Miresse  
71<sup>st</sup> Assembly District



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Senator Jeff Smith  
31<sup>st</sup> Senate District