



National
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STATEMENT

Administration Makes \$268 Million Available for Hospitals Serving Uninsured, Vulnerable Americans

Larry S. Gage, President

National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (NAPH)

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WASHINGTON, DC – NAPH applauds the Obama Administration and Congress for making \$268 million in additional funding available today for states to help safety net hospital systems who are meeting our nation's health care needs during the current economic crisis. These funds known as Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments were part of the economic recovery package, or The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, passed by Congress and signed into law by the President in February. As individuals lose their jobs and their health insurance, they are turning more than ever before to the safety net hospitals that do not send anyone away. Public and other safety net hospitals in communities across the country are reporting increases in uninsured care of between 10 and 20 percent depending on where they are located. Such hospitals are once again rising to the challenge of meeting our nation's most urgent health care needs in times of crisis. NAPH is grateful to President Obama and the Congress for the support to these hospitals at this time and their recognition of their importance to the nation's health care system.