

- Support HB 183 -

Sponsored by Representative Brandon Reed

NO-COST HELP for Hospitals

Save Lives, Save Jobs #Save Hospitals

- ▶ Hospitals are facing **\$2.6 billion in losses** through the end of 2020 because of COVID-19.
- ▶ **Federal assistance** has provided some help **but does not come close to covering the losses** hospitals already have and continue to face in the year ahead.
- ▶ Studies indicate that **numerous hospitals are in such precarious financial shape** that a wave of closures could result in the **loss of access to health care** in many areas of the state and the **loss of many thousands of jobs**.
- ▶ There is a **means of helping** the hospitals with **NO COST TO THE STATE**.
- ▶ An amendment to the state Medicaid plan could **allow hospitals to draw down further federal funds which would result in significant relief for the hospitals and as well as provide additional Medicaid funds for the state**.
- ▶ Even though it would not completely solve the financial crisis, it would be **a major improvement for hospitals** and provide much needed breathing room.
- ▶ **The General Assembly can help the hospitals to help themselves at no cost to the state treasury by amending legislation unanimously passed in 2019 to increase the amount of Medicaid supplemental payments paid to hospitals** if a higher payment methodology is approved by the federal government. Kentucky's hospitals will provide the matching funds required to secure the additional federal funds.
- ▶ **The University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville already successfully use this source of federal funding**.
- ▶ This **methodology is needed to assure adequate Medicaid funding because of the ongoing federal cuts to disproportionate share payments** under the ACA.
- ▶ **PLEASE ACT QUICKLY** to adopt this no-cost measure and help **save our vulnerable hospitals, patient access to care, and Kentucky jobs**.

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