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Kentucky Hospital Association



# National Rural Health Association Joins Effort to Repeal Wage Index ‘Manipulation’ *\*Cites Provision’s ‘Devastating Impact’ \**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Washington, DC** – Today, the Coalition of America’s Hospitals announced that the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) has officially joined its efforts to reverse the adverse national impact of Section 3141 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

“NRHA is pleased to join this important coalition fighting to end the manipulation of the wage index,” explained Alan Morgan, CEO of NRHA. “Because, if no action is taken, hospitals around the nation could lose billions of dollars, and such a loss will have a disproportionate and potentially devastating impact on small, rural hospitals. It is an outrage that this blatant manipulation is allowed to continue.”

By way of background, the National Rural Health Association is the nation’s preeminent leader on rural health matters with a membership of more than 20,000 members, whose sole charter is unwavering leadership on rural health issues.

“We are thrilled to add NRHA’s support to the nationwide groundswell against Massachusetts’ actions,” said Tom Bell, President & CEO of the Kansas Hospital Association on behalf of the Coalition, “and based on this endorsement (NRHA’s) plus the early support expressed by bipartisan Members of both the House and Senate, we are quite hopeful that Congress will address this matter before tens of millions of dollars are siphoned away from hospitals across America.”

Last week, this issue was publicly raised in the Senate Finance Committee during questioning of Health & Human Services Secretary Sebelius by the panel. And it has also come up several times privately with senior Administration officials. So, today’s announcement by NRHA is simply one more building block underscoring the momentum the Coalition is generating.

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