Patients depend on rural hospitals

Community
1 out of 5 people live in rural areas of the U.S.
14% of total rural employment is attributed to the health sector.
These Americans are scattered over 90% of the country.

Hospitals are the largest or second largest employer in most rural communities.

Challenges
Extreme distances, challenging geography, and weather complicate health care delivery.
Rural Americans are older, poorer, and sicker than their urban counterparts.
Millions of rural Americans have limited access to a primary care provider.

Impact of closure
Patients lose access to timely and essential care.
Local economy experiences a severe decline.
Physicians, pharmacies, and other health providers will also leave the community.

It's time to act
Medicare Dependent Hospital (MDH) Payment and Low-Volume Hospital (LVH) Adjustment will expire in September 2022.
The extension of these critical programs are key to the prevention of future hospital closures.

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