

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Appropriations
For SB 30

Compiled on: Monday, March 20, 2023 12:15 PM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

Hearing Date: March 20, 2023 10:00 AM

Marsha Jarrell
Hansford Manor
Spearman, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would absorb an estimated \$100 million dollars in lost revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our organization.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the challenges providers face by investing in nursing facility care in SB 1 and HB 1, base budget proposals recently filed. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate addon through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Dasa Bradshaw, Administrator
Good Samaritan Society Denton Village
Denton, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Lance Allen, Administrator
Lutheran Sunset Ministries
Clifton, TX

Hello, I'm Lance Allen and I'm the Nursing Home Administrator at Lutheran Sunset Ministries in Clifton, Texas. I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Andrew Ashton
Keystone Care
Leander, TX

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Scott McAvoy, President
Marbridge
Manchaca, TX

Greetings,

My name is Scott McAvoy and I am the President of the Marbridge Foundation, a 70-year old care community for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities with a continuum of care that includes a specialized nursing faculty. I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Isaac Snobelick, Manager
Nursing Home Residents
WACO, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Nursing homes in Texas are on the brink of insolvency. Most legislatures have easily funded nursing homes with far greater increases. Texas must ensure that nursing homes can pay their workers and take care of their residents.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Evangelina Rodriguez
Touchstone Communities
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Lynn Miller
Touchstone Communities
Bulverde, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jenny Petru, Regional Director of Talent Acquisition
Touchstone Communities
Victoria, TX

Hello Members of Texas House:

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

I work in the Human Resources and Talent Acquisition division of Touchstone Communities, and see first hand how these funds help our team members and ultimately providing best-in-class care to our residents, patients, and Veterans. We need this additional funding to support our mission to make lives better.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jenny Petru

Heather Moore, Administrator
The Heights of Tyler
Tyler, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Phylliss Avant
Nursing Home Staff
WACO, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Texas legislature must help out nursing homes operators. They will go bankrupt and this will be a shame on a national level to let the industry go down while staffing is still at crisis level. A beautiful state such as Texas should be leading in support of the nursing home industry and not be behind the curve.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Kimberlyn Schwartz

Self

RICHMOND, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the Supplemental Budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Diana Zarate, Administrator

Touchstone Communities

McAllen, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Michael McRae

Touchstone Communities, Inc.

Live Oak, TX

To: House Appropriations Committee

Purpose: Appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kiyana Campbell
Touchstone Communities
Houston, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Kiyana Campbell

Casey Hyatt
self - registered nurse
Sutherland Springs, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Casey

Julie Winchester, Benefits Specialist

Touchstone Communities

San Antonio, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Monica Alonzo, Transitional Care Liaison

Touchstone Communities

Laredo, TX

Hello, my name is Monica Alonzo, I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Carolyn Steinmetz, Manager

Touchstone Communities

San Antonio, TX

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

David Evans-Wood

Touchstone Communities

San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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With the ongoing Nursing shortage within the State caused by the pandemic and the resulting increase in staffing needs- the government has placed barriers onto Long Term Care Organizations. Couple this with increasing difficulties in being paid for care provided, blocks at every turn and funding shortfalls, rate cuts all while wanting more- we simply need help. We are the most regulated health industry operating on the lowest margins in the world.

We know that you understand this and will support the appropriations of the funding needed for LTC providers within the state to continue to operate.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

David Evans-Wood

Tamara Tholl
Ensign Services
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Michelle Powell
Marbridge Foundation, Inc DBA Marbridge Villa
Manchaca, TX

Hello:

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Marbridge Villa is the home of over 90 residents who have an intellectual disability, varied cognitive abilities and physical disabilities. Throughout COVID NH, SNF's and akin care facilities have experienced beyond critical staffing shortages. NH facilities had to reach out to contract staffing agencies, at an increased cost of 300% to over 1000% with an active COVID outbreak. The contract staffing expenses coupled with US inflation of over 6% have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Michelle Powell

Leslie Campbell
Touchstone Communities
Salado, TX

The purpose of this communication is to request the appropriation of approximately \$40M GR necessary funding in SB 30 to sustain and maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for skilled nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved PHE on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this \$40M in the supplemental budget, our nursing facilities along with over 1400 other nursing facilities in the state would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August. While the prevalence of COVID-19 in SNFs has dissipated, the cost of keeping it out has not! In fact, the average increase in cost of care is \$40 per patient per day. Along with that is an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation which has compounded the financial challenges facing our profession.

I appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. With the PHE expiration, it is imperative the Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through FY 2023 to ensure financial stability and protect the frail, vulnerable citizens of our great state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leslie Campbell

Aaron De La Torre, Operations manager
Village healthcare & rehab
Mission, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Kendall Young, Mr.

TLC West

Temple, TX

I am appealing to the House Appropriations Committee to give serious consideration for extending the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing homes throughout Fiscal Year 2023.

As a nursing facility administrator for over 30 years, I've never seen the State of Texas fund the care of our seniors in nursing facilities to the extent needed. At best, we've been no better than 45th of the 50 states in Medicaid funding, and yet our facilities are held to the same standard(s) as those nursing facilities in states far better funded.

Three years of pandemic and considerable inflation have driven labor, food and supply costs to levels we've never experienced before. The labor market is wildly worse than at any point in the last 30 years. Reducing the emergency rate for nursing facilities will cripple the industry in ways that will make recovery extremely difficult.

I appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

I appreciate your consideration of this important request.

Rosie Palomo, DNS

Touchstone Communities

MCAllen, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Mandi Bailey, Executive Director
East View Healthcare
Houston, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Mandi Bailey

Lynnea Castillo, Mrs.
Self, CPA
Helotes, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to designate the necessary funding in SB30 to maintain the temporary emergency funding for nursing facilities through the end of the fiscal year (8.31.2023). This is in response to the expiration of the public health emergency on 5.11.2023. The \$19.63 Medicaid rate add-on has been a difference maker for nursing facilities in fighting COVID and the aftereffects on the workforce, supply chain, and inflation.

Unless action is taken to include this funding in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities will be faced with difficult decisions in an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation time. This is compounded with financial challenges facing nursing homes in Texas from years without a rate increase.

Your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers face is much appreciated. The investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1 included in the base budget proposals for the next biennium is providing much needed hope for this industry. With the expiration of the PHE, it is critical that the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add-on through the fiscal year 2023 to ensure quality care and financial stability.

Thank you for your consideration and I appreciate your service to Texas, most especially to the Seniors.

Blessings,
Lynnea Castillo

Rosylina Bethea
Touchstone Communities
Selma, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Adam Mitchell
Hearthstone Nursing and Rehab
Austin, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

This measure will support not only the deserving recipients of nursing facility care, it is also vital for the WORKING women and men who dedicate themselves to this care, this also supports the ability of employers to provide jobs and add to the economy. Texas is known as a JOBS friendly state because it creates an environment where businesses grow and thrive. In this case it supports skilled workers in a vital industry providing cost efficient necessary care for deserving AMERICAN seniors.

Respectfully,
Adam Mitchel, NFA

Marcelo Lao
Touchstone Communities
Edinburg, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Sophia Saucedo, LNFA
Touchstone Communities
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Sophia Saucedo, MBA, LNFA

Peter Hayden, LNFA
Touchstone Communities
Del Rio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposal for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Peter Hayden, LNFA

Tanika Bailey, Executive Director
The Courtyard Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center
Sugar Land, TX

I am requesting for additional emergency funding to continue for long term care. The previous funding received was greatly appreciate and was spent to offset the rising costs of senior healthcare. Continued funding is still needed. Long Term Care is expensive. It is hard to keep doing more with less. The "less" has a negative impact on our most vulnerable Texans. This funding for SB30 is vital for the industry. If this SB does not pass, nursing homes across Texas will be negatively impacted. We (the long-term healthcare) already face numerous challenges daily- lets not make supplemental budgets one of them. I implore each of you, regardless of political affiliation to sincerely consider and vote to pass this bill.

I would also like to extend an invitation to each of you to give me a call and visit my facility- come see what we do if you want to see where these dollars are going.

Thank you for your attention.

Danette Maynes, AR Manager

Touchstone Communities

San Antonio, TX

Good afternoon,

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

We need action taken to include this request in the supplemental budget. Nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. Touchstone Communities works hard every day to provide the very best care to our residents. We have been innovative and progressive in our approach to healthcare during the pandemic and we need to continue that approach ensuring all of our residents have their needs met. These funds are critical to that end.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Lana Blagg, VP of Clinical Services, RN MSN APRN, AGPC-BC

Touchstone Communications, Inc.

Poteet, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Long term care has been overlooked in terms of financial support for many years. Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request. I pray that you make the right decision.

Regards,

Lana Blagg

Garrett Newsome
self Nursing home Administrator
New Braunfels, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Garrett Newsome

Megan Salyer
Marbridge Foundation
Seguin, TX

Please appropriate the necessary funding in SB 30 to maintain the temp emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through FY 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across the state will lose millions of dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic. The impact of COVID-19, such as the unprecedented workforce shortage and inflation, have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical that the state legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through FY 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality care.

Best Regards,
Megan Salyer
VP of HR
Marbridge Foundation

Lorena Ontiveros
Touchstone Communities
Spring Branch, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to assign the necessary funding in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023.

Nursing facilities across Texas stand to lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023 without this funding. The additional rate has become a critical funding source since we've had a dramatic increase to the cost of care of over \$40 per patient per day. COVID has impacted us significantly with a major shortage in the workforce and high inflation.

I appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in the budget proposals for the next biennium. It will be critical that the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Alexandra Yzaguirre, Administrator
Keystone
McAllen, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jenna Hudson, Ms.

Marbridge

Manchaca, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

The Marbridge Villa Licensed Skilled Nursing Facility is an exceptional nursing facility that specializes in providing nursing care to individuals aged eighteen through end of life with intellectual or developmental disabilities requiring nursing care. It is run by the Marbridge Foundation, a nonprofit. It is one of a kind in its quality and dedication to this mission. Each resident that admits to this facility is screened through a state agency called PASRR, or Pre- Admission Screening and Resident Review, an agency designed to reroute individuals with I/DD from nursing homes. In my ten years with Marbridge, they have never re-routed anyone to a more appropriate placement. This is because this particular group is an incredibly unique and underserved group and there are not viable options out there. Over 80% of the residents of the Marbridge Villa utilize Medicaid as their payor. Most of these individuals have been entitled to Medicaid throughout their lifetimes due to their disability. This population already requires a significant amount of care and many require narrower staff to resident ratios than traditional nursing facilities. Healthy reimbursement rates are crucial to maintaining competitive wages to draw talented, dedicated staff as well as fund the enriching operations of the Villa. In a time of inflation and increasing costs of care, maintaining reimbursement rates that have been provided throughout the pandemic is critical to the preservation of exceptional long-term care in facilities like the Villa and other skilled nursing facilities. I strongly encourage each of you to consider the profound impact cuts could have on some of our most treasured and vulnerable populations-the elderly and the disabled.

Thank you for participating in a committee that listens and acknowledges the challenges of nursing home providers and for your consideration of this particularly important request.

Best Regards,

Jenna Hudson

Marbridge Director of Admissions

Jennifer Markum

Lake Village Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

David Delgado, Occupational therapist

Alta Vista Rehab

Brownsville, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Richard Forscutt, Administrator

Priority Management Group, LLC (9 affiliated nursing homes in TX)

Heath, TX

To whom it may concern, I have been a nursing home Administrator for over 16 years now in the state of TX. Since COVID I have never seen nursing home expenses be as high as they are now. Due to inflation, costs of goods are now almost 10% higher than they used to be, and due to our new pandemic, a staffing shortage, our labor wages have skyrocketed 28%-32% based upon the department they work in. The current Medicaid reimbursement is longer adequate to mee the cost of care for our dear Medicaid residents.

The Public Health emergency ends on 5/11/23 and with that end comes the termination of the temporary emergency rate increase which is outlined in SB 30. If this temporary rate increase ends from May to August 2023, nursing facilities will be unable to provide the appropriate resources to meet critical patient care needs. In political jargon, here is the ask:

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Aman Dhingra
Nursing Homes
Cypress, TX

Respected Committee,
a Humble plea to plz keep the Temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through FISCAL Year 2023 with expiring PHE on 5/11/23.

Without action from this committee to help the supplemental budget we will lose Millions of funding necessary to keep our healthcare staff and the care the patients deserve.

We are grateful for you looking out for seniors and millions of healthcare workforce who is depending on this funds.
Plz address the support needed with support to SB30

Chris Lynch, Vice President of Finance
Self, Vice President of Finance
Austin, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$300 million dollars in revenue over the next year. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities. Texas' notoriety as one of the least funded states for Medicaid reimbursement is not a positive for our great state. This would be an important statement to the rest of the country.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Ryan Reese
Golden Acres Living and Rehabilitation
Wylie, TX

Good afternoon. I am reaching out to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Our nursing home and facility has been affected tremendously by the pandemic. This additional \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August is necessary as the federal funding goes away. We have greatly felt the effects of the \$40 increase in taking care of residents per patient per day and this funding is absolutely necessary. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

JACOB CARLOS, BOM
ALTA VISTA REHAB & HEALTHCARE
BROWNSVILLE, TX

In light of the financial struggle for those in and out of the medical field since the beginning the declared disaster/ emergency, supplemental funding has not only helped but become necessary to sustain operations. Although the health emergency is coming to an end, the shortage in staffing, the cost of supplies has risen and continues to rise with or without the declaration of the health emergency. Please consider operations and those patients that will be impacted by limiting the funds necessary to offer quality of care that leads to quality of life.

Leonardo Garcia, Administrator
The Enclave
Round Rock, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

It is with much worry and urgency that i write to you today. As a nursing home administrator my number one priority is to take care of each resident and to do so I need people and to have people I have to be able to be competitive, as the prices and inflation goes up the fundings for us stay the same. Making it very difficult to stay competitive. I have done this for over 13 years and for the first time I am second guessing my choices. I don't feel like the government cares about elderly care.

Laura Gonzales
Touchstone Communities
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,
Laura

Tammy Robison, Administrator
William R. Courtney Texas State Veterans Home
Temple, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023. Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Laura Kunka
St. Anthony's Care Center, Owner
McGregor, TX

I am respectfully writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to allow for the funds in SB 30 to make permanent the covid emergency rate of \$19.63/day for nursing facilities in response to the expiration of the federal PHE on May 11.

As a small business nursing home owner in Texas, I have seen wages almost double for CNAs and am forced to use staffing agencies, who rape us, in order to comply with CMS. Additionally, higher acuity and severe inflation have also become unprecedented challenges.

It is unsustainable and if left unaddressed, the state legislature will in effect, cause an explosion of **** CHAOS **** in the state of Texas whereby there will be closures and a lack of available beds.

There has not been an increase in MCD rates for skilled nursing facilities since 2014. The state has not even kept us up with inflation. While small operators are more nimble, we are almost extinct. Something has to be done. I walk into a school and there are secretaries everywhere on their phone, you walk into a nursing home and the CNAs can't change diapers fast enough.

I had plans to build another home to replace a very old one. I really don't think it's worth the investment and have put it on hold. I am not alone in my industry.

Please, do the right thing for our elderly and those that care for them.

Thank you for your consideration,

Laurie Kunka
St. Anthony's Care Center
Waco, TX

Sondra Hare, Administrator
West Oaks Nursing and Rehab
Katy, TX

Good afternoon. I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 so that we will be able to keep the current temporary emergency rate increase that was given to nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the Public Health Emergency expiring on May 11, 2023.

I make this request because if this supplemental income is taken away, it would be detrimental to nursing homes across Texas. The loss would be approximately \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. Not only has the cost of care increased dramatically since the beginning of the pandemic (an average of over \$40 per patient per day), but we have also experienced a severe shortage and record-high inflation. Put all together and the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities is at unprecedented levels.

Thank you for addressing the ongoing challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. With the expiration of the Public Health Emergency, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023. This will ensure nursing facilities are able to remain financially stable and provide quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important request.

Regards,

Sondra Hare

Pradeep Kumar Yamsani, Administrator
Legend Oaks San Antonio Healthcare and Rehabilitation
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request

Martin Harris, Licensed Nursing Facility Administrator
Wellington Rehabilitation and Healthcare
Temple, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Martin

Kai Mayne
Touchstone Communities, Inc.
New Braunfels, TX

Hello,

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Kai Mayne, LNFA

Spencer Carroll
Priority Management Group
Fate, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities. It is a struggle to adequately provide care for our beloved patients with the add on. Losing the add on would prove very dire in many of our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Becky Smith, AR Hospice Biller
Touchstone Communities
San Antonio, TX

I am writing the House Appropriations Committee to keep the COVID-19 add on rate of \$19.63/day per patient. Nursing homes are having to buy extra supplies and provide extra care for our patients who become ill with COVID 19. This rate increase of \$19.63/per patient per day has helped nursing homes because the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, with nursing home staffing shortages and record high inflation causing financial challenges for our nursing facilities.

Thank you for your time in consideration of this important and necessary request.

Sincerely,

Becky
AR Hospice / Respite

Melissa Beard
self
La Vernia, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding for SB 30 to continue to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023. This request is being made in light of the May 11, 2023 expiration of the federally approved public health emergency.

Without this funding, Texas nursing facilities face detrimental losses of revenue through the end of 2023. With the continuing extreme inflation in the cost of providing care to the most vulnerable population, this rate add-on is a critical and necessary funding source. The more than \$40 per patient day increase in costs since the pandemic began places nursing facilities at risk for having to close their doors further limiting the availability of appropriate care for those needing skilled nursing services. The unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement that these challenges to nursing home operators continues by funding the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1. It is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Melissa Beard

Alice Roel, Ms.
Touchstone Communities
Harlingen, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023. I thank you in advance for your support.

Chris Alcala
Brodie Ranch Nursing and Rehab
Austin, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jessica Carroll, Nurse
Keystone North
Fort Worth, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Christopher Cantrell

self

Amarillo, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Chase Thompson, Mr.

Touchstone Communities- Country Care Manor

LA Vernia, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Chase Thompson

Michael Reese, Administrator

Willow bend rehab in mesquite tx

Sachse, TX

Nursing homes won't survive without fmap funding or some type of gap coverage between the proposed Mcd rates. We are one of the lowest in America as it relates to our Mcd rate and operate at a loss on every short term resident. We are still paying for ppe, tests, overtime for those out with COVID among other expenses that doesn't allow us to continue without additional help. Staffing costs alone outpace the cost of COVID costs. Please help us as we continue to try to provide the quality care we need.

Trevor Martin
Riverside Nursing and Rehabilitation
Austin, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Ebony Prater, Administrator
Self
Austin, TX

I am writing with inquiry of the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas stand to lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on is a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

I greatly appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Daytrina Robinson, Regional Account Manager

Priority Management

Lancaster, TX

I am very concerned and am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023, which is used to care for our residents in every nursing facility. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Tatum Guerra, Administrator

Nursing Homes Ensign Services

New Braunfels, TX

Nursing Homes are the only way of life for a large population for several individuals. You want better care and staffing then you need to pay for it. We get paid Pennie's already. Do Justice for these human beings .

Becky Jerke, Executive Director

Southland Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center

Lufkin, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Becky Jerke

Calvin Wimmer

THCA

Fort Worth, TX

Nursing homes are struggling and it's almost impossible to give our elderly the dignity and care they deserve without assistance! Costs have skyrocketed and Texas legislation needs to protect our elderly.

Stacey Morales
Alta Vista Rehab
Brownsville, TX

In response to the federally declared public health emergency expiring on May 11, 2023, I am writing to request that the House Appropriations Committee appropriate the funds (approximately \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023.

Texas nursing homes will lose an estimated \$100 million in revenue from May to August 2023 if nothing is done to incorporate this proposal in the supplemental budget. While the cost of care has climbed significantly since the pandemic, costing an average of more than \$40 per patient each day, the rate add-on has become a crucial and essential funding source. The financial difficulties that our nursing institutions are currently facing have been made worse by the effects of COVID-19, a historically low labor force, and record-high inflation.

Regarding House Bill 1, the proposed base budget for the upcoming biennium, I appreciate your acknowledgment of the ongoing difficulties nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care. The Texas Legislature must authorize the additional monies required to retain the temporary rate add-on until Fiscal Year 2023 in light of the PHE's expiration in order to assure financial stability and high-quality healthcare.

I sincerely appreciate your consideration of this significant request.
Stacey Morales

Kate Stark, Ms.
Pleasant Manor Healthcare and Rehabilitation
Waxahachie, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Narinderpal Gill, Executive Director

Keystone

Richmond, TX

With all due respect, I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Cambridge Health & Rehabilitation serves 118 geriatric residents on regular basis. COVID-19 has brought big constraints on cost and health care workers. Temporary Emergency Rate has been instrumental to allow us to continue with our mission and vision. Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Narinderpal Gill

Executive Director

Cambridge Health & Rehabilitation

Sherrel Charlot, Administrator

The Heights on Valley Ranch, Touchstone Communities. LLC

Porter, TX

Greetings, I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

If this action is not passed to include this request in the supplemental budget, my community The Heights on Valley Ranch and nursing facilities across Texas would lose total estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce has impacted my community as well as other facilities. The shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

I appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Wesley Dorrow, MBA/LNFA
Bandera Nursing & Rehabilitation
Kerrville, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

I appreciate your consideration to this request.

Regards,

Wesley

Wesley Dorrow, LNFA, MBA
Healthcare Administrator
Bandera Nursing & Rehabilitation
254-749-1974

Roohi Kapoor
Copperfield Healthcare and Rehabilitation
Katy, TX

The end of FMAP funding will be devastating to skilled nursing facilities in Texas. The Medicaid reimbursement rate in Texas is the second lowest in all of the country and with the end of FMAP funding, and no bridge funding between May and September, it is challenging to financially sustain the skilled nursing facilities. We always want to provide the best care to our residents, and we always do so. However the end of funding can be detrimental to the financial sustenance of nursing homes. So many nursing homes closed down due to the increased inflation created by the pandemic and while everything is considered normalized now with respect to COVID, inflation still stands, and the price of everything that went up never came down. The wages of staff has gone up, food prices have gone up, staffing challenges across the country have caused so many nursing homes resorting to agency usage. FMAP funding is extremely important if we want to sustain skilled nursing facilities. Kindly consider it and help long-term care providers.

Felicia Muniz

Heritage Gardens Rehabilitation and Healthcare
Carrollton, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Amy Gutierrez, Administrator

Treasure Hills Healthcare and Rehabilitation
Edinburg, TX

I am writing on behalf of my facility, Treasure Hills Healthcare and Rehabilitation, located in a small town in Texas, to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Amy Lynn Gutierrez, Administrator

Jose Molina
Alta Vista Rehabilitation and Healthcare
Brownsville, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jose Molina RN, Director of Nursing Services

Camila Koger
Self-Registered Nurse
Greenville, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Camilla Koger

Lea Buckalew, LVN MDS
Stagecoach Rehabilitation
Bridgeport, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Russell Wright
Caraday Healthcare
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities. The higher level of attention required to keep the frail elderly safe during the Pandemic has put a strain on workers, including Nurses, Nurse Aids, Therapists, Medical Doctors and the like. Additional supplies including infection control equipment such as PPE and sanitizing materials for residents and staff have only added to the cost of doing business. The Nursing shortage in Texas (not to mention nationwide) has also added to the financial strain on Texas nursing homes.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Russell Wright,
Administrator
Wurzbach Nursing and Rehab
San Antonio, TX

Steven Torres, Executive Director
Legend Oaks Healthcare and Rehabilitation Northwest
Houston, TX

Hello, I am writing this letter to request that the House Appropriations Committee very strongly consider appropriating the necessary funding in SB 30 to continue the emergency rate increase through fiscal year 2023.

If this is not done, the consequences for nursing homes across the state could be devastating. The cost of care has ballooned astronomically since the beginning of the pandemic. Supplies that once cost \$5 now cost \$15. Staff once paid \$10 per hour now are paid \$15-18 per hour. In total the average increase in cost is over \$40 per patient per day. Reimbursement for caring for these patients has not increased in step with the costs. Additionally, a workforce shortage has compounded financial challenges as staffing agencies are prevalent across the state. The cost for staffing agencies is even higher than I previously spoke about. Suffice to say that many nursing facilities will experience significant challenges to continue caring for the people that we are all working to help. The ramifications of many nursing facilities closing or being unable to pay staff is not something anyone wants to see.

I sincerely appreciate your understanding of the struggles that nursing facilities in this climate face. With the public health emergency ending soon, it is vital that the Texas Legislature appropriate the funds to maintain the rate add on through this year to ensure the quality of care that we all desire is able to be given.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Steven Torres
Executive Director of Legend Oaks Northwest
(979) 446-1517

Jerry Hoyler
Westover Hills Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jerry Hoyler
Administrator
Westover Hills Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center

Elizabeth Parrish
GRAPEVINE MEDICAL LODGE
GRAPEVINE, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Elizabeth Parrish

John Norris
Pecan Valley Rehabilitation And Healthcare Center
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

John Norris
Administrator
Pecan Valley Rehabilitation & Healthcare

Laura Winkle
Southwest LTC
Plano, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Traci Edmondson
self and laundry/housekeeping
Hull, TX
we need

Josh Every
San Pedro Manor
San Antonio, TX

This really will help with maintaining our care and providing stable and meaningful jobs for our frontline staff. CNAs and Housekeepers need this to help with raises. I would love to help you understand how this will effect them. Please email me with any questions. jevry@ensignservices.net.

Regards,

Josh Every

Keith Koehler
Self - Longterm Care Administrator
Tyler, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

As a long-term care administrator, I am able to see first hand how this funding has positively affected the residents in my facility. It has allowed us to combat the increased cost of care, labor, and rising inflation. This extra funding is crucial in helping us continue to provide high quality care in long-term care facilities across the state. Please approve this request. Thank you.

Keith Koehler, LNFA
Administrator
Reunion Plaza Healthcare and Rehabilitation
1401 Rice Rd
Tyler, TX 75703

Russell Tialavea, ED
The Phoenix Post-Acute SNF
Texas City, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Russell Tialavea
Executive Director
The Phoenix Post-Acute

Beverly Jennings
Priority Healthcare and Self as a dedicated RN and Director of Nursing
Arlington, TX
SB 30 Bill

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Beverly Jennings, RN, Director of Nursing

Jorge Calderon
Keystone Healthcare
McAllen, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Alexis Cantu, SSD
Veranda Rehab and Healthcare.
Harlingen, TX

Supplements are need and given every single day throughout the day. Not providing funding for the appropriate supplements will greatly affect our current and future patients to ensure they are receiving the correct nutrition.

Connor Christensen, Administrator

Parklane West
San Antonio, TX

Please provide bridge funding for the 3 months. The Medicaid rate alone that has been given to us will not suffice to care for our staff and residents.

Michelle Ross Castillo
Ensign Services
Waxahachie, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Osiris White, Dr.
Mystic Park
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Peter Tierney, Administrator
Northeast Rehabilitation
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Peter

Doug Taggart
Grapevine Medical Lodge
Fort Worth, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Doug Taggart

Thomas Dowling
Touchstone Communities Inc.
New Braunfels, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jacob Paulson, Administrator
Patriot Heights Healthcare Center
San Antonio, TX

Provide bridge funding for 3 months we need to be able to take care of our staff. Medicaid rates alone don't meet the needs.

Jackson Allen, Operations Manager
Lakeside
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Robert Gray, Administrator
Legend oaks West San Antonio
San Antonio, TX

The nursing home facilities are having a horrible time. In my 27 years as Administrator. It is hardest time ever. Covid outbreak, the no staffing, high inflation of expenses, and now covid fmap being taken away. The costs and wages have increased but not revenue. How do we survive?

Jose Carrillo, RN

Self

Brownsville, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,
Jose Carrillo

Marcus Ashdown, Executive Director
Millbrook Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center
Lancaster, TX

I am writing to ask for the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

As the administrator of such a facility, I have used these funds to hire, train and retain staff that are taking care of our seniors despite the industry and societal upset the past years have had. This funding is critical in the current climate in not losing valuable staff to other industries and not being able to provide the quality care that we expect and strive for. I appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Melinda LeBouef, Ms.
Southwest LTC Management
Kirbyville, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Ediel Barrera
McAllen Transitional Care Center
Edinburg, TX

We really need this bill to pass. Please help us.

Diana Adeniregun, Admissions Director
Grapevine Medical Lodge/Decatur Hospital Authority
Arlington, TX

Hello,

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities. This is imperative in order for nursing facilities to stay afloat and continue providing care to this growing demographic of patients

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Diana Adeniregun

Admissions Director, Grapevine Medical Lodge

Craig Barton
Legacy at Town Creek
Palestine, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Craig Barton, LVN

Nancy Farek
Southwest LTC Management Services
Flaton, TX

As an employee of a Texas firm that provides services to skilled nursing centers, and the fragile population that lives in these center, I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

This supplement has been very helpful to meet the needs of our population. The average daily Medicaid dollar amount we receive to care for our residents, at times is less than a midrange hotel room. But this hotel room does not provide 24 hour nursing care, 3 meals, plus snacks, daily assistance with grooming, dressing, dining, activities, transportation and at times the only family this resident has.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request. Regards, Nancy Farek

SHERI FERGUSON, Director of Human Resources
Southwest LTC Management Svcs., LLC
Plano, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

In summary, these funds are desperately needed for wages to pay our employees. Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sheri Ferguson
Director of Human Resources

Andrea Gordon, Managed Care Contractor
Southwest LTC/ Managed Care Contractor/ LVN
Victoria, TX

Dear Sirs,

I am submitting in writing this request asking the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023. This is in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency scheduled for May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across the State of Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May 2023 and August 2023.

The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source due the cost of care, cost of food, cost of supplies including PPE that has increased dramatically since the pandemic.

The increase comes at an average of over \$40 per patient per day.

The impact of COVID-19 Pandemic, the unprecedented workforce shortage, record-high inflation costs have compounded the financial challenges facing the Texas Nursing Facilities.

I and my co-workers appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium.

Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical for the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Andrea Gordon, LVN- Credentialing & Managed Care Contractor
Southwest LTC 5560 Tennyson Parkway Suite 210 Plano, TX 75024
817 842 7637 Office 469 916 6100 ext. 1025 Fax 469 294 2333
Agordon@swltc.com

Rhonda Frias, RN
TouchStone Communities
Natalia, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Rhonda

Gabriel Barraza
Legend Oaks Kyle
Kyle, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Our industry will be negatively impacted by the reduction of funds drastically and the level of care could also suffer.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Derek Uselton
Self - Long Term Facility
Runaway Bay, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Derek Uselton

Ed Wilson
McKinney Healthcare & Rehab
Lucas, TX

This request is to ask the House Appropriations Committee to please appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

As an employee at a nursing facility in McKinney, I see firsthand the challenges nursing homes in Texas are facing. This additional funding is critical to maintain the quality of care our elderly residents deserve and require.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Kendall Jenkins
Self - Clinical Operations Manager
Robinson, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Kendall Jenkins
William Roberson, Administrator
The Waterton Healthcare and Rehab
Tyler, TX

I represent a skilled nursing facility in Tyler Texas. I know that to many the pandemic is over but in long-term care it is still a daily issue. The pandemic took away our residents and our staff. We have not recovered as an industry. Our services are vital to our aging population and we need more funding. Our staff are rightfully demanding higher wages and our residents deserve to be taken care of. A lack of significant funding put towards our healthcare sector will have wide reaching implications . Please think about our aging Texas and provide our industry with the funds we need to care for them.

L. Kellie Stewart

Self - Dietary Manager in Long Term Care

Bridgeport, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Kellie Stewart, CDM, CFPP

Randi Davis, Business Office Manager

752313255

WAXAHACHIE, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Louanne Mathews, Senior Technical Accting Director
Touchstone Communities, Inc.
San Antonio, TX

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As a member of the Accounting department, I see on a monthly basis the financial impact this pandemic has had on our nursing home communities. The shortage of staff has been particularly difficult. We have been forced to use external contract labor, at inflated rates, to care for our patient, residents and veterans and provide some relief to our over worked internal staff. The add-on rate has helped us to survive but this fight is not over. We continue to struggle and need the help from our elected officials.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

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Dora Ibarra, RN Director of Nursing
Veranda Rehabilitation and Healthcare
Weslaco, TX

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Jennifer Hart
Priority Management
Grapevine, TX

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Regards,
Jennifer Hart

Johnathon Roan
Legend Healthcare and Rehabilitation Paris TX
Paris, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Johnathon Roan
Operations Manager
Legend Healthcare and Rehabilitation Paris TX

Stoney Gleisner, Administrator
Legacy Rehabilitation and Living
Amarillo, TX

Although the public health emergency is ending on May 11, 2023, the nursing homes in this state are still facing the costs associated with the COVID emergency. The cost of labor has increased due to the shortage of nurses and CNAs. We continue to see COVID in our buildings that affect our residents and staff. We will continue to deal with the extra costs associated with it including high cost agency labor, overtime and increased need for supplies.

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Stoney Gleisner, LNFA

Susan Davis, RN,BSN,LNHA

Priority Management

Fort Worth, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Susan Davis,BSN,RN,LNHA

Taylor Wallace, MSHA

Touchstone

Tyler, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Taylor

John Koplin

Self

Fort Worth, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

LAURA ESTEP, MS
PLEASANT MANOR HEALTHCARE AND REHAB
WAXAHACHIE, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Beverly Wrigglesworth
self
San Antonio, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ming-Yao Pu
Self
Houston, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Elizabeth Howard, Mrs.
Touchstone Communities, Inc.
San Antonio, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Geoffrey Chudleigh, Mr.
Park Manor Bee Cave
Cedar Park, TX

As a concerned member of the Long Term Care industry, we need the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Geoff Chudleigh, LNFA

Heather Clark
Self
San Antonio, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Donna Young
self
Waxahachie, TX

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I am a firm believer in this program and have seen personally the difference it has made for young families raising the next generation of Texans. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Anne Pottinger
Self
Keller, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Matt Albrecht

Self

Haslet, TX

It is imperative that we provide alternatives for our Texas families in order for our amazing Texas families to make the right choice of pursuing life for their child. It is clear that these alternative methods are being utilized and thus this financial deficit exist. Texans want to take advantage of these programs because all people know deep down the right choice is to choose life.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Joshua Choe

self; unemployed

Carrollton, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr and Mrs Lew Webb

self

Waco, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mont Goodell II, Mr.

www.LifeBeginsAtConception.com

Austin, TX

Dear Representative,

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mont Goodell II, MBA

Rachel Bush

Self

Dallas, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mike Muhlestein, President

Ensign Services

Waxahachie, TX

This bill is vital to the success of our nursing homes. With the rising costs and catastrophic staffing disposition, nursing homes cannot stay afloat without this gap coverage. Please consider voting yes for this bill.

Tyler Buccola, Administrator

Richland Hills Nursing & Rehab

Grapevine, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

John Kizlyk, Mr.

Self

Mckinney, TX

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Jeannon Kralj, Ms.

Self Retired University of Texas System

Austin, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Raul Ramos
Laredo Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
Laredo, TX

Good afternoon,

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Raul Ramos, LBSW-CCM, LNFA

Nance Shaw
Pro-Life Org of Grimes and Waller Counties
Navasota, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kenneth Grover
Windsor Rehabilitation & Healthcare
Terrell, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Joel Johnson, MD
Self
Tyler, TX

Please sustain the Alternatives to Abortion program

Lana Claycamp, Mrs.
Self
Burkburnett, TX

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Matt Peterson
Beacon Harbor Healthcare & Rehab
Rockwall, TX

I am writing to ask you to provide the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency. This funding is desperately needed to keep nursing homes afloat. I run a nursing home here in Rockwall Texas and the increase in labor costs, food costs, and supply costs over the past couple years have made us much more dependent on this extra funding that is coming to an end.

Please consider that inflation has caused our costs to go through the roof and we have not seen any other sources of additional funding beyond the emergency funds. We desperately need this additional help to stay afloat.

Thank you for your consideration.

Matt Peterson

Jacqueline A Duke
Texas Right to Life
Whitney, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Nicholas Cerean
Self
Rowlett, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Melinda Kyhn

Self

Austin, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Marie Pate

self

Midland, TX

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Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Charles Neubecker

self

Plano, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration. Texas is a big state. Let's show we have a big heart in helping pregnant women and their babies needing support.

Rolando Castillon, RN

Admission Clinician- Touchstone Communities

Laredo, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Rolando Castillon, RN

Drew Dutton, Mr.
self - Manager of IT
Austin, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

John Pinegar, Administrator
Decatur Medical Lodge
Decatur, TX

To whom it may concern:

Please understand that the costs of running a nursing home in TX have risen exponentially over the past 3 years. These costs will not be decreasing as a result of the end of the PHE. Healthcare has changed fundamentally, due to COVID. Labor expenses have risen dramatically for all types of care givers. Contract labor, which is even more expensive, has become the norm among most SNFs and NFs. The population of the labor force in healthcare has declined in a major way. Revenue has also suffered due to census declines. There are many other factors that are strangling our economy as well - such as tremendous inflation, higher interest rates, scarcity of certain materials, a major increase in the severity of financial penalties imposed upon us for relatively minor, so-called infractions of new regulations which seems to be an increasing trend among regulators. Removal of the \$19.63 would create undue hardship on those that have remained in the industry, who are determined to make the industry great again. Please consider these issues thoughtfully and thoroughly.

Sincerely,
John Pinegar

Melissa Trantham
Self
Austin, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Vanessa Abbey

Self

Pearland, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jared Kubik, Administrator

Bridgeport Medical Lodge

Bridgeport, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Jared Kubik

Walter Pate
self
Midland, TX

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Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Craig Hutson
Self
Weatherford, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jordan Cox, Licensed Nursing Facility Administrator
Westpark Rehab & Living
Eules, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

DAVID CASTILLO

Self
HOUSTON, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Julie Grimstad, Mrs.

Self
Bedford, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Rebecca Hall
Myself
Mineral wells, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lance Duncan
Mansfield Medical Lodge
Mansfield, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards

Lance Duncan, Administrator
301 N Miller RD
Mansfield, TX 76063

Don Dolezalek
Self
Texarkana, TX

Since the State of Texas has done away with abortions in Texas, the State needs to assist organizations to help women who are going through a pregnancy. Please pass this bill to provide these supplemental appropriations. Thanks.

Kimberly Beauchamp, RN
Self/ Registered Nurse
Trophy Club, TX

I visited the Capitol last week and educated various representatives on SB30. TX has not increased NF reimbursement rates since 2014 and current rates are among the lowest in the U.S. It is imperative we receive a portion of the GR to bridge the gap between the ending of the PHE and Sept. when HB1/SB1 take effect.

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

David Anthony
Self/Retired
Franklin, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration. God bless you.

Gregory Harward

self, supportive husband of nurse

Trophy Club, TX

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Regards,

Max Edginton, Ed

The villages of dallas

Dallas, TX

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Erin Hanna
Self
Bastrop, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Bertha Nava
self
Houston, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Barbara Kirchner
Self
Spring Branch, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

TESSA DEVANCE DeVance

self

ALLEN, TX

I am so proud of Texas for providing this service to mothers of Texas. Please hear my voice for the unborn Texans.

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tessa DeVance, a mother and grandmother of Texas children

Ed Hand

Myself, retired

Crowley, TX

Abortion alternatives are extremely important. Women must not feel punished for becoming pregnant.

Darl Easton

Self

Eules, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jenifer Mahler, Mrs.

self

Roanoke, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christy Lippitt

Health Services Management-CMA/CNA

Liberty, TX

With the Public Health Emergency expiring on May 11th, nursing homes will lose almost \$20 per day in funding. I ask the House Appropriations Committee to please appropriate funding in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities. This is a necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, over \$40 per patient per day. I love working in this field, but we cannot adequately take care of our ever-growing Baby Boomer resident population, without the necessary funding/ supplies. Thank you.

Roy Talbot, Mr.

self

Lindale, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Stephanie House

Self

Lockhart, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Betty N Lawson

Self

Houston, TX

Please support the Alternatives to Abortion program.

Tyla Champlain, RN

Priority Management

Royse City, TX

The nursing home industry has not seen in an increase in such a long time. Cost of everything around us has gone up to be able to care for our residents. I would appreciate your consideration in this matter since the last increase has been nearly 9 years ago. Thank you so much for your time

Donna Beasley

Texas Right To Life

Conroe, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jennifer Loving
Self, Self-employed
Temple, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jordan Golden
Southwest LTC
Blooming Grove, TX

The supplemental funds are a necessity in order to maintain nursing facilities and provide adequate care. If the additional funds are revoked then the existing staffing crisis, high cost of food, and rising cost of supplies will bankrupt many operators. Help us help the elderly. Without these funds, elder care will continue to diminish.

Felipe Villagran
self
El Paso, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jose Almaguer
Self
League City, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Jose Almaguer

JOY GRUBBS
SELF
EARLY, TX

Support Alternatives to Abortion Program

Gary Tannahill
Self
The Woodlands, TX

I respectfully ask you to sustain the Alternatives to Abortion program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions. This program also supports mothers who want to give birth to their babies.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texans want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard Lang, Mr

Self

Pearland, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Willie Sherman, Mr.

Park Manor of McKinney

McKinney, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Kyle Martin, Administrator

Kirkwood Manor

New Braunfels, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Shem Wanlass, Executive Director

Park Village Healthcare & Rehabilitation

DeSoto, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Shem Wanlass

Claire Pace

Self, College Student & Behavior Technician

San Antonio, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Amanda Starck

Self

Burkett, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kyle Peterson

Mason Creek Transitional care of Katy

Katy, TX

I am writing on behalf of Mason Creek Transitional Care of Katy, where I have been the administrator for the past two years. I have personally seen how COVID has effected not just our building but all surrounding long term care facilities. I am writing this to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jeff Cornwell

self, maintenance worker

College Station, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Donald Volz
Self / Retired
New Braunfels, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Glenn McGorty
self
Georgetown, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Silvia Correa, Mrs
Self
Houston, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Juanita Hernandez, Mrs

Self

McKinney, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Megan Lewis

Ensign / Therapy

Waxahachie, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

David Brockman

Self

Colleyville, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Elizabeth Suess, Mrs.

Self

Midland, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Georgia Fitzhugh

Self

Lancaster, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

This program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget. This will save lives! Thank you.

Leslie Weiss

self

Sachse, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Peggy Trevino, Mrs.

Self

Edinburg, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Deborah Shortner

Self

Bellville, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Devin Brewer, Market Leader

Keystone Healthcare

Bulverde, TX

With the PHE ending that includes FMAP funding. By this ending so quickly and there being no bridge between our potential increases this causes a huge strain on facilities. It causes them to have to focus on financial cost control more than ever taking patient centered focus away.

Kenneth Smisor

Self

Pearland, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kristine Tomasovic

Kristine Tomasovic

Leander, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Janet Shoffner

self landscaper

Carthage, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Gary Meier
Meier and Associates
Spring, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Joshua Cordova
Self
Waxahachie, TX

To Whom It May Concern,

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide tangible and social services to assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life, and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

mike o'donnell
Self
San Antonio, TX

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Raymond Matthews

Self

Fort Worth, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Misrak Kebede

Self

Pearland, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lori Richardson

Self

Canyon Lake, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Beverly Hemmann, Ms.

Self Retired

Temple, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Respectfully,

Beverly Hemmann

OSCAR CHENOWETH

farming

Belton, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Edward Duran

Self

San Antonio, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Andrea Sparks
Buckner International
AUSTIN, TX

Buckner International respectfully requests an appropriation of \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through FY 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023. Unless this bridge funding is included in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas, including Buckner nursing homes, will lose \$100 million dollars between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our organization.

We are grateful for your investment in the Medicaid rate for nursing facilities in SB 1 and HB 1. But this gap in funding is serious and nursing facilities throughout Texas need the bridge funding to ensure stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Andrea Sparks, Buckner International

Tami Almason
Self
Fate, TX

I am asking that some of the monetary overage would be distributed or appropriated to those facilities that offer women an alternative to abortion and who provide resources to make keeping her baby a possibility and not a burden. I am asking that you consider funding life and resources for moms and family's in need. Thank you for your consideration.

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tina Blahofski, RN NVP
Touchstone
Weston Lakes, TX

It will be disastrous to our industry for this bill to be passed. We already unbelievably stressed each day to care for our elderly in our nursing communities. Please vote no for us and for our most fragile residents and veterans Thank you

Clinton Davis, Mr.
Self
Allen, TX

This is critical to the people of our state. Please give a healthy choice to women in need.

Diana Woolverton, Dr.
Crestwoo Health and Rehabilitaiton
Wills Point, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (approx \$40 M GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facility through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 20203. Nursing Facilities have struggled through the pandemic with costs dramatically increasing at an average rate of \$40 per patient per day and an unprecedented workforce shortages. The current inflation rate is compounding our struggles.

We appreciate your acknowledgment of the continued challanges nursing home providers continue to face.

Abraham Mathew, Director of Operations
Buckner Retirement Services
Pasadena, TX

This is a very important request to save our seniors and their residing nursing facilities, where they call it their home. I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

We already have seen the decline of nursing homes and how their operations / expenses have affected the whole industry. Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would absorb an estimated \$100 million dollars in lost revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our organization.

I appreciate your acknowledgement of the challenges providers face by investing in nursing facility care in SB 1 and HB 1, base budget proposals recently filed. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Laurey Boyd, Mrs.
self
Jonestown, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Macie Ingram
Self/Domestic Engineer
Pearland, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Joni Peterson
TX Right to Life
Porter, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Randy Elkins
Misty Willow Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center
Tomball, TX

With the continued increase in wages and supplies it has become harder to maintain a fiscally disciplined business in healthcare. We have to continue to make cuts which frustrates our current staff and those they care for. The hospitals send more and more residents that are more clinically complex than ever before which require more needs with staff and supplies, but our funding does not change. Something has to be done, we cannot continue to be expected to provide 5 star quality of care when we are one of the lowest Medicaid funded states in the country.

Michael Olmstead
Buckner Retirement Services
Waco, TX

I am sending this request the House Appropriations Committee appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would absorb an estimated \$100 million dollars in lost revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our organization.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the challenges providers face by investing in nursing facility care in SB 1 and HB 1, base budget proposals recently filed. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Michael Flanagan, Hon
Self/Consultant
Corpus Christi, TX

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Denise Herrera
Self
El Paso, TX

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

JAMES NUZZI

Self

League City, TX

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Matthew Neher

Self

Waco, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ben Mar

Ensign

Dallas, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Melissa Brown
Touchstone Communities
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.
Melissa Brown

Aaron Prado
Self. Nurse
La Feria, TX

I believe it is very important to continue the increase funding to all nursing facilities. Nurses and CNAs are already under paid and hard to find. By removing this funding facilities will have less to give in raises and bonuses to the staff. Creating a more difficult work environment for the staff by not being able to recruit with higher wages. This could result in residents not receiving the care they deserve due to a potential lack of staff. Sense the pandemic we have seen an increase in wages for the first time in a long time. Before that ages were 17-20 for nurses in a facility now they are 21-27 this is huge increase. I do believe a lot of this does come from the funding we have received. Please consider extending this till the end of 2023 to give facilities time to adjust their budgets for 2024.

Laura Heffelfinger
Self retired
Cresson, TX

Please pass appropriations bills HB 1 and SB 30.
It is important that our state supports women who choose
life for there unborn babies and future Texans.
Thanks,
Laura Heffelfinger

Jose Morales
self Administrator in Training
Lufkin, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

joe R Morales AIT

Debbie Juhlke, Mrs
Embrace Life Initiative
Round Rock, TX

Please approve this bill which is needed.

Jim Steele
Self
Cedar Park, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jacob Wilson
Self - CPA
Fort Worth, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a large increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion is expected to run out of money by June 2023, according to Texas Right to Life. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Pro-Life Texans would like women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Brandice Barrera
Self
Corpus Christi, TX

Hello can you please give these mothers and children are fighting chance in life, and in helping them we will help ourselves and our country.

Cynthia Larson, Dr
Self
Friendswood, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dennis Clifford, Prof
self
Houston, TX

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Penny Brant
Will-O-Bell Skilled Nursing & Rehab
Pflugerville, TX

Thank you for serving Texas. We all care about our Elders and are concerned about the funds that will go away with the PHE on May 11th. The staffing costs have grown by 30% and that is not a cost we can do without BECAUSE our service is taking care of the Elderly. We ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

John Martone
self
Houston, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Barbara Martone
self
Houston, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Frank Martone
self
Houston, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thomas Pilkington, Operations Manager
Pasadena Post Acute
Friendswood, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Margaret Estes, Administrator
The Heights on Huebner
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day, largely in part due to many facilities having to rely on paying staffing agencies to help staff our facilities. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care. We rely tremendously on this rate add on to help staff our facilities in order to meet the needs of our residents. It is necessary until our workforce returns to us in long-term care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Gilberto Martinez
River Ridge Nursing and Rehabilitation
Robstown, TX

I am asking the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate and consider the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

The greatest challenge continues to be staffing our homes and without the additional funds it is difficult to determine how to properly manage our homes with the lack of revenue and direct care staff. It would be so disappointing if nursing homes will have to decide if they will truly be able to provide the care the elderly in their communities need.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Respectfully,
Gilberto Martinez Jr., LNFA

Dennis Opferman
self
Fort Worth, TX

We must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget. It is very important. Opposing abortion is not enough. We must help women who feel overwhelmed by an unplanned pregnancy.

Thank you very much for supporting this bill.

Lucille Matthews

Self - Scientific Software Developer

College Station, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sheila Nelson Dodd

Self

Argyle, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Susan Krall, PT, CSO

QRM

Addison, TX

This is a necessity for the ongoing care of our elderly.

Kristin Pinfield, Mrs

Self

San Antonio, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

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Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kim Weete, Director of Revenue Cycle Mgmt

Southwest LTC Management

Plano, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

The Add On has become a critical funding source as costs have increased almost \$40.00 since the pandemic. This along with unprecedented work force shortages the nursing home industry in Texas needs the continuation of these funds.

Please consider allocating the remaining ARPA funds to help bridge the gap.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Amanda Rice

Self, Nurse
canyon, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Amanda Rice

Christina Cardenas
Speech therapist
Edinburg, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Christina Martinez

Ensign

Harlingen, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Jill Darling

self - speech language pathologist

Keller, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Kacey McDowra

Self COTA

Mansfield, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Tony Searles
Self
Fort Worth, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jonathan Tyner
Broadmoor Medical Lodge
Midlothian, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Melanie Mooney
Self - Certified Dietary Manager
Palestine, TX

OUR SENIORS NEED READILY AVAILABLE DAILY HEALTH CARE

Chelsea Owens
Breckenridge Village
Tyler, TX

My name is Chelsea Owens and I am the executive director of Breckenridge Village, an intermediate care facility for adults with developmental disabilities (ICF/IDD) located in Tyler, Texas. I am writing today to comment “on” Senate Bill 30: Supplemental Appropriations, asking the legislature to allocate \$36 million General Revenue (\$101 million All Funds) to increase direct care wages in HCS group homes and in ICFs to \$15/hour starting March 2023.

This request aligns with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission’s decision to increase wages for the same level of staff at state hospitals and state-supported living centers, effective March 1, 2023 (at a cost of \$148 million). We applaud the state’s actions to modernize compensation for these important caregivers, and ask that the legislature make equal funding opportunities available to non-profit and private IDD providers, who are truly force multipliers and partners for the state in caring for Texans who will never be able to care for themselves.

This funding request for group homes and ICF/IDDs would cover the same dates of attendant employment, March 1, 2023 through the end of the current fiscal year, and reach approximately 16,000 group home and ICF direct care staff/attendants.

While the most important aspect to me is ensuring adequate living wages for my staff, I recognize that the Legislature will need to determine how this is funded. If general revenue is used to draw down a federal match, the cost of this important effort would be \$36.2 million GR. Dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) may also be available.

I will say that the 87th Legislature’s use of ARPA funds to provide one-time recruitment and retention bonuses to long-term care frontline workers, like mine, were a lifesaver! That funding was a boost for Breckenridge Village’s direct care workers/attendants who displayed exceptional dedication during the long years of COVID-19 and helped us keep our wonderful staff... but now we need a longer-term solution.

Again, I ask you to fund \$36 million GR (\$101 million All Funds) to increase wages for attendants working in group homes and ICF/IDDs. I am thankful for your consideration and for caring about the health, safety, and comfort of our most vulnerable Texans.

Lela Calloway, Receptionist
Legacy at Town Creek Palestine, Texas
Palestine, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Jason Burson

self-

Lufkin, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Tanya Lavelle, Policy Specialist

Disability Rights TX

Austin, TX

Disability Rights Texas is Texas' federally-designated Protection and Advocacy agency for persons with disabilities. Housing is the cornerstone of wellness, and without a safe and affordable place to live, people can't be expected to thrive in their communities, especially people with disabilities. Eviction protections in Texas during the pandemic were insufficient, and eviction filings have consistently increased in many parts of Texas since moratoriums expired. People with disabilities are acutely impacted since people at risk of complications from COVID-19 had to choose between income or their health the past few years. The economic fallout resulting from the pandemic has created housing market volatility, most dramatically a rise in rents. Texas' shortage of affordable housing worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic. Between 2019 and 2021 Texas' stock of housing units affordable and available at or below 30% AMI per 100 households who need them decreased from 29 to 25: major metro areas have less. Texas also has just 44 units affordable and available at or below 50% AMI per 100 households that need them: major metro areas have fewer. The 30% and 50% AMI income brackets include people with disabilities who receive disability-related assistance, and some who work.

During the pandemic, TDHCA allocated more than \$2.1 billion in emergency rental assistance to 316,000 families through the Texas Rent Relief program (TRR). TDHCA ran one of the most successful rental assistance programs in the country and as a result, evictions plummeted. When TRR ran out, evictions jumped with some areas increasing beyond pre-pandemic levels. TRR was the primary resource we shared with our clients looking for help preventing pandemic-related evictions at a time when resources were scarce.

Earlier this month TDHCA announced that TRR had an additional \$94 million available and it would be opening the portal to new applicants, not just processing older applications. The portal opened March 13th, but due to incredibly high demand it closed in a couple days: the portal received over 70,000 applications in the first 24 hours. Allocating \$750 million to replenish TRR would keep hundreds of thousands of Texans in their homes, avoiding the burdens of evictions on individuals, communities, and taxpayers.

SB 30 allocates ARPA funds to some initiatives unrelated to pandemic recovery or disaster planning, including \$35 million for a TDCJ training facility and \$600 million for unspecified school safety initiatives. These allocations aren't aligned with the intention of ARPA, funds meant to be used for emergency initiatives and activities related to helping American households and businesses recover from the pandemic. Low income Texans, including people with disabilities, need direct assistance now to help them remain housed. By meaningfully investing ARPA funds in TRR, Texas can prevent evictions and improve the housing outcomes of its most vulnerable citizens during a volatile time

Rebecca Davis

Self

Carthage, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Rebecca Davis, COTA/DOR

Kristi Bogany

SNF Tomball Texas

Cypress, TX

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

natasha bilson
medical lodge
AMARILLO, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Nefi Guzman, Administrator
Grand Terrace Nursing Home
McAllen, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Ariel Venable, LVN

Health Care

Eules, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities. Without the assistance, the nursing facility residents in Texas will be affected.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Ariel Venable

Daniel Rogers

Touchstone Communities

Austin, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Christopher Ehman
Self and Administrator
Katy, TX

It is imperative that the House Appropriates Committee fund SB30 to ensure the highest quality of life and care be provided to our aging senior community who has entrusted us with their care. Without taking action and approving the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. Of all 50 states Texas ranks dead last in reimbursement for long term care residents. Therefore, this rate add-on is a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities. If SB30 is not approved, then in a very short prior of time skilled nursing facilities will begin to shutter, leaving our elderly in a very compromised position and likely in a situation that costs them their life.

John Tubbs
Colonial Manor
Cleburne, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

John Tubbs
Snf Administrator

peter nguyen
Ensign Services
grand prairie, TX

As a director of rehab and an advocate for geriatrics and skilled nursing facilities, I am urging the House Appropriations Committee to allocate the required funds (approximately \$40 million GR) in SB 30 to uphold the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities until the end of Fiscal Year 2023. This is in response to the federally approved public health emergency expiring on May 11, 2023.

If no action is taken to incorporate this request in the supplementary budget, nursing facilities in Texas would suffer an estimated loss of \$100 million in revenue between May and August 2023. Since the pandemic, the cost of care has substantially increased, averaging over \$40 per patient per day, making the rate add-on a critical and necessary funding source. Furthermore, the financial challenges faced by nursing facilities have been compounded by COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage, and record-high inflation.

We appreciate the House Appropriations Committee's recognition of the continued challenges that nursing home providers face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. However, considering the expiration of the public health emergency, it is crucial for the Texas Legislature to allocate the necessary supplemental funds to maintain the temporary rate add-on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality care.

Thank you for your consideration of this crucial request.

Suzanne Huber, Healthcare Director
Army Residence Community
San Antonio, TX

Please vote to approve HB-30. Our vulnerable Texans in nursing homes need this supplemental payment to be cared for in a humane fashion. With inflation at over 8%, everything is more expensive including food and supplies. Do not leave our Texas seniors behind!

Laura Litle, CBO Manager
Southwest LTC Management Company, LLP
Frisco, TX

I am writing to request the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate/approve the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

It is important that this action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget. Our nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your consideration and approval of this request to assist with the ongoing daily challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Laura Litle
CBO Manager

Yvonne Thompson, Business Office Manager

PMG - Mansfield Medical Lodge

Mansfield, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

James Ussery, Administrator

HSMTXRICHRMOND LLC

Richmond, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

James Ussery, LNFA

Administrator

705 Jackson Street | Richmond, TX 77469

Office: 281-238-8006

Email: jussery@richmondhsm.com

Jennifer Fellows
self - Physical Therapist Assistant
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Jennifer Fellows

Ari Levi
Self, Licensed Nursing Facility Administrator
Dallas, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Chad Benson, President
Millennial Care Management
Plano, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

We employ over 300 Texans who depend on these jobs to provide for their families. Our payroll costs over the last year alone have increased 35%. That was just one year. The preceeding 10 years, we have averaged a company-wide annual increase of 2-3% for our employees to keep up with inflation. HOWEVER, during this same period of time (10-11 years), we have recieved 0 (ZERO) increases in the rates that we receive from the State of Texas. Something must change.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Chrystal Stalder
Lawrence Street Health Care Center
Spring, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Leslie Bell, Mrs.
Self
Kemp, TX

The Texas Legislature must continue to protect and expand the Alternatives to Abortion program to meet Texans' increased need after the reversal of Roe v. Wade. As a Pro-Life Texan, I respectfully ask you to sustain this program through the rest of this fiscal year by funding it at \$25 million in the supplemental budget, Senate Bill 30.

Since Roe was overturned, the program has seen a 40% increase in services provided to women. Because of this increase, Alternatives to Abortion will run out of money by June 2023. The resources this program provides are critical to ensuring Texas women are not pressured into seeking out-of-state or illegal abortions.

Every single day, pregnancy resource centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes provide both tangible and social services to truly assist women and children. Texas is Pro-Life and we want women to know they are not alone when they choose Life for their babies. Please fund Alternatives to Abortion at \$25 million in the supplemental budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

SEND A MESSAGE

Right now, there is a greater need than ever to ensure Texas women have resources to choose Life, rather than feel pressured to seek dangerous illegal abortion pills or an abortion across state lines.

Because of this massive increase, pregnancy centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes in the program will not be reimbursed for serving women and families after June 2023 unless lawmakers grant additional funding through the rest of the year.

Sandra Smith

AFSCME Texas Retirees, Chapter 12

Austin, TX

When I learned that the House Appropriations Committee was meeting today to discuss the supplemental state budget, I had hoped to get in my car and drive from San Antonio to Austin. I had hoped to talk face-to-face to the committee members about the urgent need for retired state employees like me to receive a 13th paycheck this year.

Unfortunately, the price of gas has gotten too high for me to take that 160-mile round trip. My ERS annuity has not increased since the day I retired in 2010, so I need to closely watch every penny I spend. I am not alone. More than 120,000 Texans rely on ERS pensions to pay our bills. And we are struggling.

When I first became a state worker in the 1980s, I was a single mother with three young daughters. I needed to earn a living and was drawn to state employment because my parents had both been public servants. My dad had served in the military in World War II and Korea and then worked for the government as a civilian.

I started as a part-time dental assistant with the Texas Department of Health, helping seniors in nursing homes take care of their teeth and dentures. Within a couple of years, I moved to a full-time administrative job and then worked my way up the state government ladder. I became an investment compliance officer at TEA and Executive Director of the Texas Chiropractic Board.

In my 24 years in state government, I saw that my work impacted the lives of thousands of Texans, directly and indirectly, and I was proud to be a State of Texas employee. I gladly accepted lower pay than I would have received in the private sector because I love my home state and I believe in serving others.

When I retired in 2010, it had already been almost a decade since the Legislature had approved a cost of living adjustment (COLA) for retirees. I never dreamed we would be here nearly a decade-and-a-half later, still with no COLA.

Each year, I receive a COLA from the Social Security Administration, which helps me get by. Barely. And, each year, I wait in vain for more support from state government. I've seen retired teachers who I know get a 13th check over the last two years, which has made a big difference in their lives. I don't understand why state workers like me can't get the same support from the state that we helped make so great.

I will be honest: things are hard. I already mentioned the high cost of gas. The same is true for the rising cost of clothing and food. For awhile, I was receiving Meals on Wheels.

I have arthritis and can't walk into my backyard because my porch steps need to be fixed, but I can't afford the repairs. Last month's ice storm knocked down trees and fences in my yard. But I can't pay for those repairs either.

I am also the caretaker for an adult relative who has disabilities, which puts more strain on my income.

A 13th check would benefit me and every former state employees who gave their careers, their professional life, and their blood, sweat, and tears to this state.

Craig Brashier
Southwest LTC - Management Services, LLC
McKinney, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023. As the CFO of an organization managing and operating nine (9) skilled nursing facilities across the state, I can personally attest to the fact that allowing the temporary increase to expire will place many operators at risk of financial failure as a result of the rapid rising operational costs.

Unless action is taken to include this request in the supplemental budget, nursing facilities across Texas would lose an estimated \$100 million dollars in revenue between May and August 2023. The rate add-on has become a critical and necessary funding source as the cost of care has increased dramatically since the pandemic, at an average of over \$40 per patient per day. The impact of COVID-19, an unprecedented workforce shortage and record-high inflation have compounded the financial challenges facing our nursing facilities.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Brittany Scarborough, Admin Assistant
Liberty Health Care Center
Dayton, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Joshua White
Health Services Management of Texas
Conroe, TX

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We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Laura Wallen, Administrator
Huntsville Health Care Center
Huntsville, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Laura Wallen

VERONICA BIRCH, BSN, RN
SOUTHWEST LTC
CARROLLTON, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

Long-Term Care facilities take care of the most fragile and vulnerable residents of the great state of Texas. These funds are needed to deliver essential care and services to our elderly residents. Please take the time to consider this request and keep in mind the residents that this bill and funding would go to assist.

We appreciate your acknowledgement of the continued challenges nursing home providers continue to face and the investment in nursing facility care in House Bill 1, the base budget proposals for the next biennium. Considering the expiration of the PHE, it is critical the Texas Legislature appropriate the supplemental funds necessary to maintain the temporary rate add on through Fiscal Year 2023 to ensure financial stability and quality-care.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Dawn Huckins, Administrator
AHC dba El Paso Health and Rehabilitation
El Paso, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Dawn Huckins, M.Ed., LNFA
Administrator
El Paso Health and Rehabilitation

Robert Foster
Prestonwood Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, Inc
Plano, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Regards,

Kevin

Bob Foster
Denton Rehabilitation & Nursing Center
Plano, TX

I am writing to ask the House Appropriations Committee to appropriate the necessary funding (appx. \$40 Million GR) in SB 30 to maintain the temporary emergency rate increase for nursing facilities through Fiscal Year 2023 in response to the expiration of the federally approved public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Rahul Sreenivasan, Policy Advisor

Texas 2036

Austin, TX

Texas 2036 supports SB30.

For background, Texas 2036 is a non-profit, non-partisan, data driven organization, promoting long-term solutions for the state of Texas as it approaches its bicentennial. We want to draw attention to three specific spending items within the supplemental appropriations bill being considered today by the House Committee on Appropriations.

1. As budget writers grapple with how to pay for tax relief and other investments with recurring costs for future legislatures, one of the best ways to reduce this future burden is by reducing future liabilities. The \$1 billion lump sum legacy payment for ERS in SB30 is an example of a fiscally sound choice in this revenue cycle that future legislatures should thank the 88th for. This additional \$1 billion payment alone would reduce future interest payments by an estimated \$5.5 billion over the next 31 years.

In fact, if the legislature approved a \$2 billion lump sum instead, ERS actuaries estimate that Texas would save an estimated \$9.5 billion in interest over the same time period.

2. We are pleased with the \$100 million allocated for parkland acquisition. This allocation fits under Texas 2036's priority to support expansion and improvement of state park infrastructure. Texas 2036's work with Rice's Baker Institute for Public Policy showed that "investing in existing and new state parks will generate more jobs and more economic growth while strengthening all areas of the state — especially rural communities."

Our most recent Texas 2036 voter poll indicated 73% of Texans supported investing \$1 billion to create and expand our park system.

3. We support the proposed allocation of an additional \$400 million for flood mitigation. In service of meeting the state's growing water needs, Texas 2036 supports state appropriations for water supply, flood control, and infrastructure improvement projects. Additionally, investments in future water reliability include ensuring water supplies are resilient and protected from extreme weather events.

Thank you, and we look forward to continuing work together with the members of the committee.

Rahul Sreenivasan

Policy Advisor, Texas 2036

Wilson Winburne, Administrator

Legacy at Jacksonville

Jacksonville, TX

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Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Wilson Winburne

Administrator

Legacy at Jacksonville