

# Healthcare Funding Gaps

## Bond Buyer California Public Finance Conference

*November 4, 2025*



# H.R. 1 – The “One Big Beautiful Bill” (OBBA)



- Enacted: July 4, 2025
- What is it?
  - Sweeping federal law that cuts over \$1 trillion from Medicaid over 10 years, reshaping eligibility, enrollment, and provider financing.
- Takeaways for hospitals?
  - Limits on provider taxes and directed payments, risking supplemental funding.
  - Work requirements, biannual eligibility redeterminations, shorten retroactive coverage.
  - \$35 cost-sharing per service for low-income adults starting in 2028.
  - Expect higher churn, more uninsured patients, and rising uncompensated care.

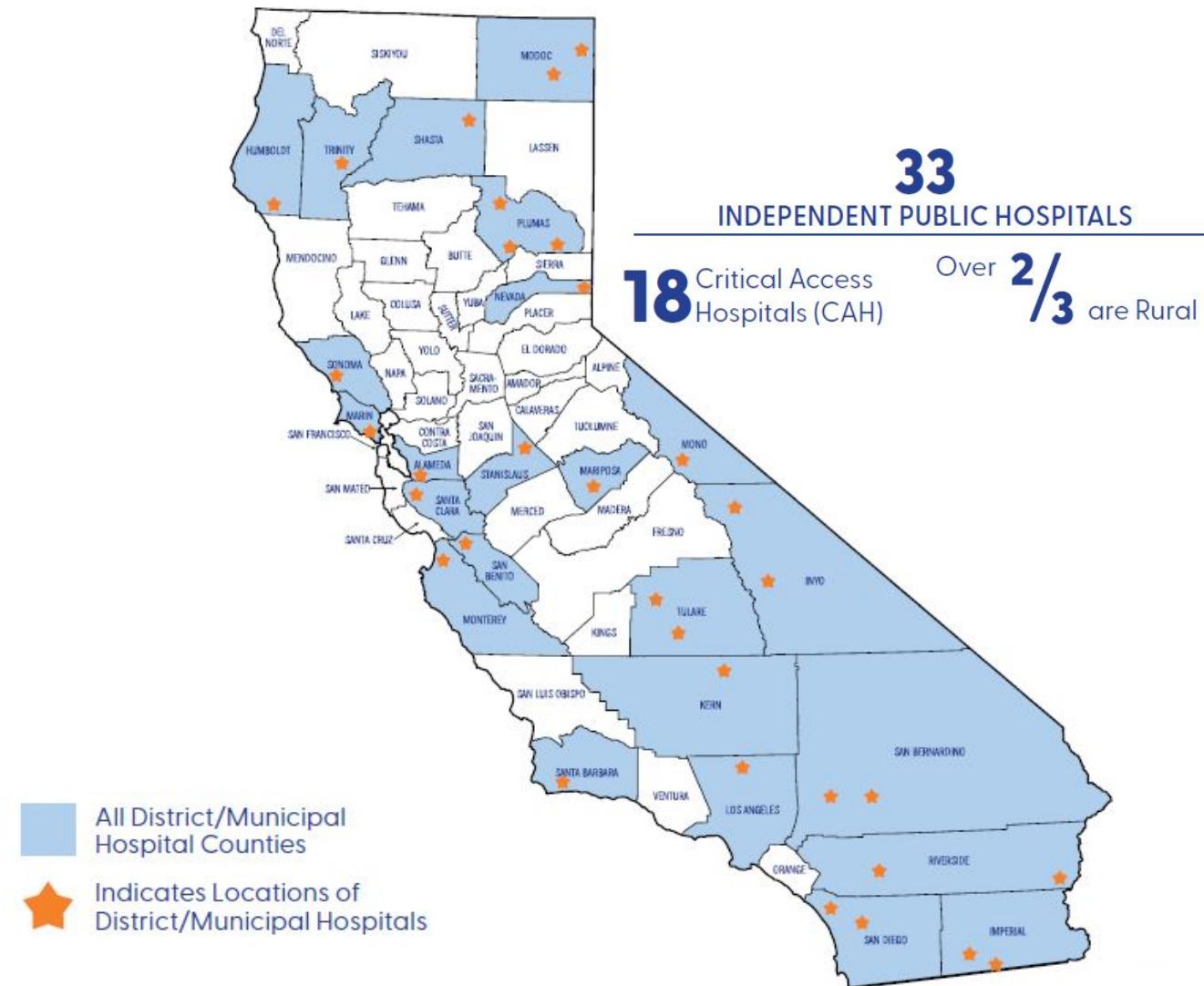
# Expected Impact on California

- Governor's press conference stated Medi-Cal Impact:
  - 3.4 million lose Medi-Cal coverage,
  - Loss of \$30 billion in federal funding
- California Hospital Association's estimate:
  - \$66 billion to \$128 billion over 10 years
  - 30% reduction in total Medi-Cal revenue
- Covered California estimates:
  - Roughly 30% or 600,000 of their 2.0 million will drop off the ACA exchange.
  - Without subsidy enhancements, average premiums will increase by 66%.



# District Hospitals

- District and municipal hospitals are local governments responsible for providing the health care needs of their communities.
- Today, there are 33 district and municipal hospitals across California.
- Over two-thirds are rural, and more than half have a critical access hospital (CAH) designation. In most communities they are the sole provider of health care services.



# District Hospital Snapshot

## Fee-For-Service

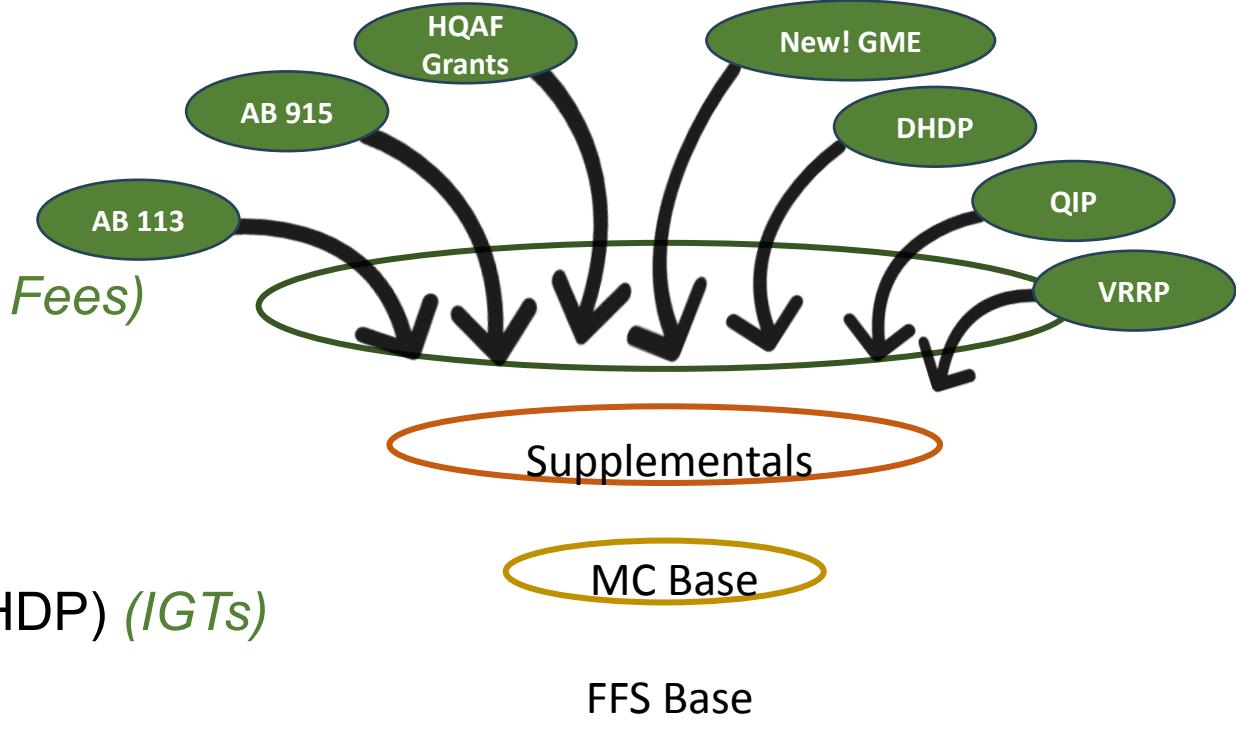
### Supplemental Payments (*Self-Financed*)

- Inpatient: AB 113 (*IGT supported*)
- Outpatient: AB 915 (*CPE program*)
- Hospital Quality Assurance Fee Grants (*Private Fees*)

## Managed Care

### Supplemental Payments (*Self-Financed*)

- Quality Incentive Program (QIP) (*IGTs*)
- District Hospital Directed Payment Program (DHDP) (*IGTs*)
- Voluntary Rate Range Program (VRRP) (*IGTs*)



***In 2023, Medi-Cal accounted for 46% of the combined payor mix for District Hospitals.***



# Impacts to District Hospitals

- We expect supplemental program revenues to decline by over 30% over the next five years.
- This estimated impact assessment does not consider the impact to Medi-Cal base rates (potential FFS policy changes or MC contracting), pending regulatory changes, Medicare sequestration changes, any potential offsetting Rural Health Transformation funding, increases in uncompensated care, or other Medi-Cal programmatic changes.
- Other complications:
  - Spending growth targets from the state's Office of Health Care Affordability constrains the ability for hospitals to seek significant rate increases to offset these declines.
  - California has 692 hospital buildings across 270 facilities that do not meet 2030 seismic safety requirements and will need capital to meet compliance. This represents two-thirds of hospitals in CA.
    - Cost estimates are in the tens to over one hundred billion range to complete this work.
  - State budget challenges are likely to prevent the ability to backfill federal funding cuts.



# Rural Health Transformation Program

## Overview:

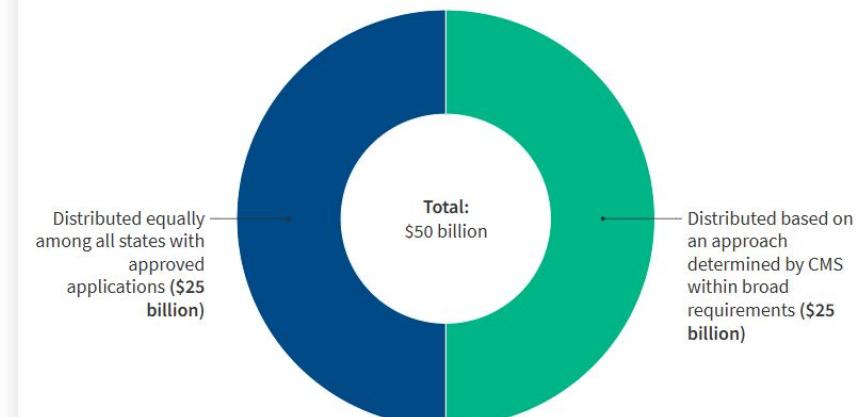
- \$50B available to states (FY 2026–2030); must be spent by Oct 1, 2032
- Half (\$25B) awarded “equally to all approved states”—regardless of need or size
- Half (\$25B) awarded based on CMS’s assessment of state rural needs and application quality
- States may use funds for programs that:
  - Promote measurable care interventions,
  - Pay providers for provision of health care items or services,
  - Expand the rural health workforce,
  - Create technological efficiencies for system transformation
- California’s application being prepared by HCAI

## Timeline of Activities:



Figure 1

**The Rural Health Fund Includes \$50 Billion, With Half to Be Distributed Equally Among States With Approved Applications and Half to Be Distributed Based on an Approach Determined by CMS Within Broad Requirements**



Note: The law provides \$10 billion per year through the rural health fund for fiscal years 2026 through 2030, a five-year period. States will be allowed to spend funds that they receive through the end of the following fiscal year, and CMS may be able to redistribute some unused funds over time, but all funds must be spent before October 1, 2032.

Source: KFF analysis of tax and spending reconciliation law. • [Get the data](#) • [Download PNG](#)

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□ **Intention is for RHTP to develop sustainable, transformative programs for rural health facilities, not to backfill cuts occurring because of HR 1.**