

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **HARI Reacts to Governor's Proposed Budget**

**Providence, R.I. – January 18, 2019**

*The FY20 proposed state budget released by Gov. Gina Raimondo on January 18, 2019 includes elimination of inpatient upper payment limit payments (federal funds used to ensure Medicaid reimburses hospitals at an amount equal to Medicare) and a Medicaid payment rate freeze. The Hospital Association of Rhode Island continues to analyze the impact of these proposals.*

The Hospital Association of Rhode Island and its members are disappointed the proposed budget includes hospital payment cuts. We look forward to working with the General Assembly and the Administration to help protect our hospitals, which provide nearly \$7.6 billion in economic impact to our state.

The proposed cuts are disappointing and fail to take into consideration the loss of funding sustained at the Federal level. As officials in Washington D.C. have arbitrarily cut Medicare reimbursement rates to Rhode Island. The impact of the federal cuts is compounded by the budget, as proposed by the Governor, which eliminates the inpatient upper payment limit payments and eliminates expected Medicaid rate increases. The Governor's proposed cuts, when taken together with the Federal reductions, will result in a \$50 million loss of revenue to hospitals in Rhode Island.

- Kayla Mudge, communications coordinator, Hospital Association of Rhode Island

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*Founded over a half century ago, the Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI) is a statewide trade organization that assists member hospitals in effectively meeting the healthcare needs of Rhode Island, through advocacy, representation, education and services. HARI members work collaboratively to improve the quality of care delivered and address issues threatening access to healthcare. HARI members work together to ensure that all Rhode Islanders will receive comprehensive, high-quality healthcare.*