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STATEMENT FROM THE WEST VIRGINIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION REGARDING GOVERNOR JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENT ON “SAVE OUR CARE” HOSPITAL FUNDING

CHARLESTON, WV – Jim Kaufman, President and CEO of the West Virginia Hospital Association, released the following statement regarding the Governor’s “Save Our Care” hospital funding initiative.

“On behalf of the hospitals in West Virginia and the 49,000 employees who have been working tirelessly throughout the pandemic, we thank the Governor and his COVID-19 pandemic leadership team, along with policy leaders for taking action today through the “Save Our Care” initiative.

The funding announced through this effort will help provide targeted relief to West Virginia hospitals so that they can immediately address the challenges associated with staffing costs. This funding will put West Virginia hospitals in the best possible position to directly support their health care workers while also ensuring all West Virginians receive the care they need.

Due to a national staffing shortage, the costs to recruit and retain clinical staff, as well as obtain temporary clinicians are adding up and placing tremendous financial pressure on West Virginia hospitals. This targeted relief will help West Virginia hospitals manage this challenge to best serve the needs of all patients and ensure access to care.

COVID-19 continues to test the capacity of West Virginia hospitals and our workforce, but we stand ready to serve our communities in the face of this pandemic. We are thankful to the Governor and our state’s leadership for recognizing the essential role of West Virginia hospitals as we continue to care for all West Virginians.”

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About WVHA: The West Virginia Hospital Association (WVHA) is a not-for-profit statewide organization representing 64 hospitals and health systems across the continuum of care. The WVHA was founded in 1925 to serve as the collective voice of the state’s hospital community. Today, the mission of the WVHA is to support its members in achieving a strong, healthy West Virginia. Members of the Association envision a strong healthcare system that supports optimizing the health status of West Virginians served by hospitals and improving the economic condition of the state. Connect with WVHA through [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).