In the last five years, approximately 40 hospital-based skilled-nursing facilities in California (about one-third) have closed due to financial pressures.

Proposed funding cuts for hospital-based skilled-nursing care will put the health and safety of California’s most medically complex patients, frail seniors and disabled people at risk.

- Medi-Cal beneficiaries make up nearly 80 percent of the patients receiving hospital-based skilled-nursing care. These are patients requiring specialized and medically complex care that freestanding nursing facilities and other health care providers are unable to provide.
- In the last five years, approximately 40 hospital-based skilled-nursing facilities in California (about one-third) have closed due to financial pressures.
- Without AB 900 and SB 640, funding for this level of skilled-nursing care will be reduced by 25-40 percent, a cut so severe that some facilities will be forced to close or drastically reduce their services to patients, threatening patient health and safety.

It will be less expensive to the state to reverse the cuts, maintain current services and allow implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act to create additional efficiencies.

- Without hospital-based skilled-nursing care, patients will remain in acute-care hospitals longer, adding greater costs to the health care system than the dollars “saved” through the proposed cuts.
- Patients and residents in hospital-based skilled-nursing facilities have shorter lengths of stay and achieve better outcomes when compared to patients in freestanding skilled-nursing facilities. Acute hospital readmissions are lower for hospital-based skilled-nursing facilities.
- Patients can be admitted and managed more efficiently due to their proximity to hospital services and benefit from higher staffing levels and skill mix.

There is no plan for the inevitable displacement of frail patients.

- Throughout California, the remaining skilled-nursing facilities in hospitals are already full to capacity and have long waiting lists. If additional facilities close or reduce services, patients will be displaced, have no place to go and lose access to medically necessary care.
- Medi-Cal patients in rural areas needing specialized nursing and rehabilitative care will be among the hardest hit because these facilities serve as a core safety-net provider. They are the only option for Medi-Cal patients with complex medical and behavioral health needs.
- Many elderly and disabled Medi-Cal patients will end up staying longer in acute-care hospital beds because there is simply nowhere else for them to go.

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Help Stop Drastic Funding Cuts for Skilled-Nursing Care!

Support AB 900 and SB 640

Hospital-based skilled-nursing facilities help ensure that acute-care hospital services are available for other patients who need them.

- Reductions in services or elimination of hospital-based skilled-nursing facilities altogether means more elderly and disabled patients will stay in limited acute hospital beds for months or even years.

- Without skilled-nursing facilities, many small hospitals and emergency rooms in rural areas cannot stay open. Residents of rural communities will need to travel long distances for basic medical care.

Support AB 900 and SB 640 to restore funding for hospital-based skilled-nursing care.

- AB 900 and SB 640 will stop the cuts, save the state money and preserve essential services for patients who cannot go without medically necessary care and treatment.

- AB 900 and SB 640 will help keep seniors and disabled patients needing specialized care and rehabilitation safe in the communities where they belong.