



*Improving Health.
Saving Lives.*

August 21, 2021

Re: Save the Life Savers

The critical shortage of frontline healthcare providers in our community and across the state of Mississippi is an urgent issue and our hospitals need your immediate help.

The continuing loss of essential caregivers results in a shortage of open beds and reduces access to care. Right now, lucrative out-of-state contract offers are at an all time high, particularly for the RN designation. Not-for-profit health systems in poorer states like Mississippi do not have the cash flow nor cash reserves that other large for-profit systems in most other states do. We need the State to use the Federal funds they are being given for COVID-19 relief to reverse the exodus.

We urge our state to immediately address Mississippi's Critical Front Line Healthcare Shortage and save our hospital lifesavers by simply allocating a significant portion of American Rescue Plan funds to front line caregivers in the form of a retention bonus to be paid over the next two years.

Our local hospitals and dedicated caregivers have been there for us throughout the pandemic and now it is time for us to build a future here in Mississippi for them. We need to count on you to immediately support this initiative and save Mississippi's front line healthcare workers.

Sincerely and respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Egan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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