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LD 445

I want to support LD 445. Our hospitals are in a crisis now, with their emergency rooms filled with poor souls suffering from various uncompensated mental illnesses. These hospitals are losing significant resources and are having increasing financial deficits. This outdated policy delays the care of patients requiring other systemic medical services. There is simply no logical reason for continuing the Federal government policy of limiting Medicaid payments to hospitals with more than 16 beds providing mental health services. These hospitals are the primary resource for acute mental health issues. These poor patients need to have proper care, and the hospitals need to be adequately compensated.