

The Utah Hospital Association Supports Reauthorization Of the Current Hospital Assessment Law

The current hospital assessment is a vital means of funding appropriate Medicaid funding for Utah's hospitals. It is currently working well for Utah's hospitals, the State of Utah and the Medicaid patients that hospitals serve. It is one of the highest legislative priorities for the Utah Hospital Association.

The vast majority of states in the country have a hospital assessment program to help fund the Medicaid program in their states like Utah does. Such assessments have been legal and used for over 20 years.

This assessment in Utah came about due to the Great Recession where the state Legislature had to make major cuts in the state budget, including an over 30% cut to hospital Medicaid funding.

The Utah Hospital Association supports a three year extension of the hospital assessment to give both hospitals and the state sufficient time to decide the long term future of this assessment.

Utah hospitals would be happy to have the state resume general funding to replace the hospital assessment as has been the case for most of the history of the Medicaid program but until that happens, Utah's hospitals are willing to continue the current assessment.