

Senator  
201 W Capitol Ave, Rm.  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Senator

As a resident of Missouri, I am saddened and angered by our state's neglect of its senior population. **Missouri's SNF Medicaid reimbursement is averaging approximately \$25 less per day per resident than the state's formula says it should be. Missouri contributes only \$15.26 PPD from General Revenue, about one third less than its surrounding states. This is driving Missouri's Medicaid shortfall and making it increasingly difficult for the state's nursing homes to care for senior citizens.** As a result, care levels may be compromised at some of the state's facilities and many may ultimately be forced to close.

This is a travesty of justice for older adults and their families. And it does not have to be this way! Missouri's surrounding states are allocating significantly more money from general revenue, resulting in higher reimbursements for skilled nursing residents. The amount Missouri's neighbors are paying is similar to what Missouri says it should be paying! Put in real numbers, these states pay an average of \$48.22 per diem from General Revenue, more than three times the amount Missouri pays.

From a moral standpoint, Missouri's reduced Medicaid allocation is unconscionable. Our seniors have contributed to the state's wealth, have lived by its laws, and have put you in office. Please remember these important citizens by helping them get the care they need.

**Please vote to fully fund SNF Medicaid in 2018. Make seniors a priority, and pay the full amount that Missouri's own formula stipulates!**

Respectfully,