



May 22, 2023

The Honorable Bob Menendez  
U.S. Senate  
528 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boozman  
U.S. Senate  
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
U.S. Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins  
U.S. Senate  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Menendez, Senator Boozman, Senator Collins, and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the Graduate Medical Education (GME) Advocacy Coalition, the 80 undersigned organizations offer our enthusiastic support for the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2023 (S. 1302). This bipartisan legislation is crucial to expanding the physician workforce and to ensuring that patients across the country are able to access quality care from providers.

The need for physicians continues to grow faster than supply, leading to an estimated shortfall of up to 124,000 primary care and specialty physicians by 2034.<sup>1</sup> America's medical schools, teaching hospitals, and their physician partners are doing their part by investing in physician and health care provider training and leading innovations in new care delivery models that are more efficient and include better use of technologies that improve patient access to care. Even with these efforts, however, shortages and access challenges will persist unless we expand the physician workforce. With demand for physicians continuing to outpace supply as both the patient population and physician workforce continue to age – it is critical now more than ever that Congress build on recent bipartisan efforts and invest in training more doctors.

We are grateful that bipartisan congressional leaders have worked together to provide 1,200 new Medicare-supported GME positions since 2021 – the first such increases in nearly thirty years. The Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2023 would build on this historic investment by gradually raising the number of Medicare-supported GME positions by 2,000 per year for seven years, for a total of 14,000 new slots. A share of these positions would be targeted to hospitals with diverse needs including hospitals in rural areas, hospitals serving patients from health professional shortage areas (HPSAs), hospitals in states with new medical schools or branch campuses, and hospitals already training over their caps.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.aamc.org/news-insights/press-releases/aamc-report-reinforces-mounting-physician-shortage>

Sens. Menendez, Boozman, and Collins and Leader Schumer

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We look forward to working together to support the training of future physicians and to secure the passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Association of American Medical Colleges  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM)  
Alliance of Specialty Medicine  
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
American Academy of Dermatology Association  
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery  
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American College of Academic Addiction Medicine (ACAAM)  
American College of Cardiology  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American College of Osteopathic Internists  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Radiology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Surgeons  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Medical Association  
American Orthopaedic Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Society of Addiction Medicine  
American Society of Anesthesiologists  
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Urological Association  
America's Essential Hospitals  
AMGA  
Association of Academic Chairs of Emergency Medicine (AACEM)  
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries  
Association of Academic Physiatrists  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools (AMHPS)  
Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers  
Association of University Professors of Neurology  
Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology  
Association of University Radiologists  
Association of Women in Rheumatology (AWIR)

California Hospital Association  
Catholic Health Association of the United States  
Children's Hospital Association  
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations  
College of American Pathologists  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Federation of American Hospitals  
Greater New York Hospital Association  
Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYYS)  
Healthcare Leadership Council  
Heart Failure Society of America  
Heart Rhythm Society  
Medical Group Management Association  
Minnesota Hospital Association  
National AHEC Organization (NAO)  
National Association of Spine Specialists  
National Council for Diversity in Health Professions (NCDHP)  
Premier Inc.  
Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM)  
Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions  
Society for Vascular Surgery  
Society of Academic Associations of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine  
Society of Chairs of Academic Radiology Departments  
Society of Directors of Research in Medical Education  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Interventional Radiology  
Society of Neurological Surgeons  
Society of University Surgeons  
The American College of Rheumatology  
The American Society of Breast Surgeons  
The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania  
The Society of Clinical Psychology (Division 12 APA)  
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons  
The Student National Medical Association  
Vizient, Inc.