



Association of
American Medical Colleges
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March 20, 2025

The Honorable Jen Kiggans
152 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jennifer McClellan
1628 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Debbie Dingell
102 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick
271 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks
504 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raja Krishnamoorthi
2367 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Kiggans, Dingell, Miller-Meeks, McClellan, Fitzpatrick and Krishnamoorthi:

On behalf of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), I write to thank you for the reintroduction of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act (H.R.929), which would reauthorize key initiatives that expired at the end of fiscal year (FY) 2024, aimed at addressing suicide, mental health, and burnout among health professionals.

The AAMC is a nonprofit association dedicated to improving the health of people everywhere through medical education, health care, biomedical research, and community collaborations. Its members are all 160 U.S. medical schools accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education; 12 accredited Canadian medical schools; nearly 500 academic health systems and teaching hospitals, including Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers; and more than 70 academic societies. Through these institutions and organizations, the AAMC leads and serves America's medical schools, academic health systems and teaching hospitals, and the millions of individuals across academic medicine, including more than 210,000 full-time faculty members, 99,000 medical students, 162,000 resident physicians, and 60,000 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers in the biomedical sciences. Through the Alliance of Academic Health Centers International, AAMC membership reaches more than 60 international academic health centers throughout five regional offices across the globe. Learn more at aamc.org.

Physicians and other health professionals dedicate their careers to keeping people healthy and preventing disease, but too often they do not receive the care they need to address their own well-being. AAMC data shows that, like the overall U.S. physician population, a large percentage of medical school faculty have experienced higher levels of stress, and nearly a third of medical faculty face one or more symptoms of burnout.¹ Further, stigma, bias, and other barriers can hinder health professionals from seeking and receiving care for new or ongoing mental and behavioral health challenges. In addition to their detrimental effect on health professionals and their families, health professional burnout, stress, and other behavioral health issues negatively affect patient care, patient experience, and overall health outcomes.

The Dr. Lorna Breen Healthcare Provider Protection Act has taken steps to reverse these troubling trends through investments to prevent suicide, reduce burnout, and promote care for mental and behavioral health conditions among health care professionals. However, this important law expired at the end of FY 2024 and must be reauthorized to continue to provide critical investments that help support the mental health and well-being of our nation's health professionals. While the ability of any single educational intervention on its own to overcome pervasive systemic challenges is limited, we believe that these grants help train health professionals in strategies to reduce stress and burnout and would represent a key effort to raise awareness about the need to prioritize health care professionals' well-being.

Thank you again for your ongoing efforts to promote physician well-being and toward our mutual goal of improved health for all. The AAMC looks forward to working with you to enact the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle P. Turnipseed". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Danielle" and last name "Turnipseed" clearly legible.

Danielle Turnipseed, JD, MHSA, MPP
AAMC Chief Public Policy Officer

CC: David J. Skorton, MD, AAMC President and CEO

¹ <https://www.aamc.org/system/files/reports/1/february2019burnoutamongusmedicalschoolfaculty.pdf>