



**Association of  
American Medical Colleges**  
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June 17, 2025

The Honorable Bernie Sanders  
Ranking Member  
Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Sanders:

On behalf of the Association of American Medical Colleges<sup>1</sup> (AAMC), thank you for your continued support of policies that enable our member institutions to provide life-saving care, educate and train the next generation of health care providers, conduct cutting-edge medical research, and improve the health of patients and communities. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on how policies contained in the House-passed One Big Beautiful Act ([H.R. 1](#)) will impact academic medicine and the patients and communities they serve. As the Senate continues its work on reconciliation legislation, the AAMC will continue to advocate for policies that strengthen the nation's health through strategic investments in our health care, education, research, and public health infrastructure. To that end, we continue to urge the Senate to reject harmful cuts to Medicaid and Medicare, as well as any policies that would limit access to medical education for aspiring physicians.

For your reference, attached please find a copy of a [June 5 letter](#) we submitted to Senate Republican leaders outlining our concerns with H.R. 1 and detailing how provisions of the legislation would undermine our members' ability to fulfill their core missions of patient care, research, and education. In our letter, we describe how the House-passed cuts to the Medicaid program—including proposed restrictions on provider taxes and state-directed payments—would imperil teaching health systems and hospitals' ability to care for vulnerable patients and

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<sup>1</sup> The AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges) 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.

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communities, placing a profound strain on our nation's health care safety net. We further highlight how policies contained in the legislation would make it more difficult for individuals to enroll in and afford commercial plans offered through the ACA marketplace exchanges, increasing the uninsured rate and consequently, hospitals' uncompensated care burden. Further, we outline how proposed limits on core student financial aid programs, including the Graduate (Grad) PLUS, Unsubsidized Direct loan program, and Public Service Loan Forgiveness programs, would undermine access to medical education for aspiring physicians and exacerbate the already acute physician shortage. Any one of these policies is negatively impactful, but taken together, this is of tremendous consequence to health care, to academic medicine, and to the health and vitality of our nation. The impact of these collective policies cannot be understated.

Thank you for seeking our perspective. We welcome the opportunity to provide any additional feedback or information on these policies. If you have any further questions, please contact me at [dturnipseed@aamc.org](mailto:dturnipseed@aamc.org), Len Marquez, Senior Director, AAMC Government Relations and Legislative Advocacy, at [lmarquez@aamc.org](mailto:lmarquez@aamc.org), or Tannaz Rasouli, AAMC Senior Director of Public Policy and Strategic Outreach, at [trasouli@aamc.org](mailto:trasouli@aamc.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle P. Turnipseed". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Danielle" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Turnipseed".

Danielle Turnipseed, JD, MHSA, MPP  
Chief Public Policy Officer  
Association of American Medical Colleges

CC: David J. Skorton, MD  
President and CEO  
Association of American Medical Colleges