



Action Alert

September 29, 2017

Bipartisan Legislation Would Increase the Number of Medicare-funded Residency Slots

Please contact your legislators and urge them to co-sponsor the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2017 (S. 1301/H.R. 2267). Introduced by Sens. Bill Nelson (D-FL), Dean Heller (R-NV) and Charles Schumer (D-NY), and Reps. Joseph Crowley (D-NY) and Ryan Costello (R-PA), the bill would increase the number of physician residency slots at teaching hospitals, which have been frozen at 1996 levels for the past 20 years.

The legislation would add 3,000 Medicare-funded residency slots each fiscal year for the next five years, at least half of which must be used for a shortage specialty residency program.

In the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Congress anticipated a surplus of physicians and capped the number of Medicare-funded physician training positions. The freeze has severely limited hospitals' ability to train the next generation of providers and has contributed to a shortage of physicians, especially in behavioral health, primary care and general surgery.

Please contact your legislators today and urge them to co-sponsor the bills.

Please see the [Senate letter of support](#) and the [House letter of support](#) for more details. Below is the current list of co-sponsors.

S. 1301

Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL)
Sen. Dean Heller (R-NV)
Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-NY)
Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)

H.R. 2267

Rep. Crowley, Joseph [D-NY-14]
Rep. Costello, Ryan A. [R-PA-6]
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]
Rep. Amodei, Mark E. [R-NV-2]
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]
Rep. Cardenas, Tony [D-CA-29]
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]
Rep. Davis, Rodney [R-IL-13]
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]
Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-22]
Rep. Donovan, Daniel M., Jr. [R-NY-11]
Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [D-PA-14]
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]
Rep. Faso, John J. [R-NY-19]
Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]
Rep. Hurd, Will [R-TX-23]
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]
Rep. Kihuen, Ruben J. [D-NV-4]
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2]
Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]
Rep. Meehan, Patrick [R-PA-7]
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]

Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1]
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]
Rep. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV-3]
Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]
Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10]
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1]
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]
Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]
Rep. Tsongas, Niki [D-MA-3]
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]
Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1]