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May 14, 2019

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jacky Rosen
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Klobuchar, Collins and Rosen,

The American Academy of Neurology (AAN), the world's largest neurology specialty society representing over 36,000 neurologists and clinical neuroscience professionals, is strongly committed to high-quality accessible care for patients with neurologic conditions. We would like to commend you for introducing the *Conrad State 30 and Physician Access Reauthorization Act*.

One in six people live with a brain or nervous system condition, including Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, stroke, epilepsy, traumatic brain injury, ALS, multiple sclerosis, and headache. With an aging population and the burden of neurologic disease continuing to grow the neurology workforce may not be able to meet patient demand.

Originally created in 1994, the Conrad program is an important tool to address critical physician workforce shortages and patient access to care in underserved areas. The current program is designed in a flexible way that allows each state to customize their Conrad 30 allocation to address the unique needs of their state. For example, in Minnesota all specialties are considered for the program, while in Rhode Island eligible practice areas limited, but include a small number of specialties like pediatric neurology. The AAN supports the reauthorization of this program through 2021 and recognizes the need for additional policy to combat the ongoing medical provider workforce challenges across the country.

Thank you for taking a leadership role on this critical issue. Please contact Derek Brandt at dbrandt@aan.com if you have questions or request additional information.

Sincerely,

Ralph L. Sacco, MD, MS, FAHA, FAAN
President, American Academy of Neurology

2018 AAN Annual Meeting
Los Angeles Convention Center - Los Angeles, California
April 21-27, 2018

2019 AAN Annual Meeting
Philadelphia Convention Center - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
May 4-10, 2019