



Huntsville Hospital • 101 Sivley Road • Huntsville, AL 35801

May 7, 2020

The Honorable Doug Jones, Senator
United States Senate
326 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Senator Jones:

I previously sent you a letter a couple of weeks ago regarding two congressional bills – S.948 and H.R. 2895 -- that were being introduced to address overly burdensome visa restrictions. These two pieces of legislation would help fast track critical physicians (more than 300 in Alabama and 12,000 nationwide) out of the current visa backlog and allow them to work where the need is greatest during this important time. Additionally, these bills will also help health systems, like ours, to recruit more physicians in the coming year to assist in addressing ongoing needs as we continue to respond to the future demands that Covid-19, and likely other viruses, will place on our health care system.

A new bill – S. 3599 – has been introduced that will enhance our nation’s nurse and physician workforce during the COVID-19 crisis by recapturing unused immigrant visas.

I ask your assistance as Huntsville Hospital is the second largest hospital in Alabama, annually serving hundreds of thousands of patients as the major referral and trauma center for northern Alabama and southern Tennessee. Our health system includes affiliate hospitals in Madison, Athens, Decatur, Boaz, Guntersville, Sheffield, Red Bay, Moulton, Scottsboro, and Fayetteville, Tennessee. Combined, our health system provides more than 2,000 hospital beds which are served by 15,000 staff members and nearly 1,400 physicians.

Again, I would appreciate your support of S. 3599 during this vital time. On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of patients we serve, we are forever grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David S. Spillers', written over a light blue horizontal line.

David S. Spillers
Chief Executive Officer

DSS/crb



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May 7, 2020

The Honorable Richard Shelby, Senator
United States Senate
304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Shelby:

I previously sent you a letter a couple of weeks ago regarding two congressional bills – S.948 and H.R. 2895 -- that were being introduced to address overly burdensome visa restrictions. These two pieces of legislation would help fast track critical physicians (more than 300 in Alabama and 12,000 nationwide) out of the current visa backlog and allow them to work where the need is greatest during this important time. Additionally, these bills will also help health systems, like ours, to recruit more physicians in the coming year to assist in addressing ongoing needs as we continue to respond to the future demands that Covid-19, and likely other viruses, will place on our health care system.

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Again, I would appreciate your support of S. 3599 during this vital time. On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of patients we serve, we are forever grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Spillers', written over a light blue horizontal line.

David S. Spillers
Chief Executive Officer

DSS/crb