



Capital Region[®]
MEDICAL CENTER
An Affiliate of  Health Care

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August 12, 2020

The Honorable Senator Joshua Hawley
1123 Wilkes Blvd, Suite 220
Columbia, MO 65201

The Honorable Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer
2117 Missouri Boulevard
Jefferson City, MO, 65109

RE: Support for the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act

Dear Senator Hawley and Representative Luetkemeyer:

On behalf of Capital Region Medical Center, I am writing to request your support of S.3599, known as the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act. The legislation is a bipartisan proposal from Sen. Perdue, Sen. Durbin, Sen. Young, and Sen. Coons and co-sponsored by Sen. Blunt, that will address the shortage of physicians and nurses during the nation's COVID-19 pandemic and will enhance the healthcare workforce.

Specifically, the bill authorizes the recapturing of 15,000 unused immigrant visas for physicians as well as 25,000 visas for nurses. The bill further allows for the issuing of visas for the immediate families of these physicians and nurses and not have those visas count toward the 40,000 limit.

Capital Region Medical Center believes that the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act will help ensure that the nation has enough physicians and nurses to care for the public during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond. This is particularly important to Missouri which ranks third in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) behind California and Texas.

We rely upon health professionals from other countries to provide high-quality patient care. During this pandemic, it is more critical than ever to ensure that patients have access to these providers without limitations that the current J-1, H-1B, and O-1, visa programs impose. Consequently, we believe that the passage of S.3599 will go a long way towards solving this problem.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Gaspare Calvaruso
President

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Better. Every day.