

December 8, 2020

U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC

Dear Senator:

On behalf of Legacy Community Health, we appreciate the opportunity to express our support for S. 3599, the bipartisan Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act, and recommend its passage in the United States Senate.

Over 130,000 community members across Southeast Texas rely on Legacy for its services, making it the largest community health center system in Texas. As such, we see first-hand the need for quality, affordable, and accessible health care in medically-underserved communities. Unfortunately, while the work we contribute to is rewarding, it can be difficult to recruit well-trained physicians who want to practice in a community health setting.

As the pandemic continues, it is ever more apparent that there is an increased need for health care workers in medically-underserved regions all throughout the country. The Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act would allow for the entry of nurses with approved immigrant visas and physicians with approved immigrant petitions to adjust their status, so that they might be authorized to contribute to the fight against COVID-19 and its effects on the broader community.

As you are aware, prior to this crisis, there was already a growing need for competent physicians willing to offer compassionate and culturally sensitive care to the diverse and growing population of patients in underserved communities. By providing a fast track to permanent residency, this legislation will ensure that these vital members of the health care workforce can continue to meet the urgent need our nation is facing.

During these unprecedented times, we believe an all-hands-on-deck approach is vital. We urge you to support S. 3599, the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act, and ensure its passage in the United States Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Katy Caldwell'.

Katy Caldwell, CEO