

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Jack Bergman  
United States Representative  
566 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bergman:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

International Medical Graduates (IMGs) have longed played an integral part in the delivery of care in Michigan, with our state having one of the highest populations of IMGs in the country. IMGs are also more likely to practice in underserved areas, which have been shown to be disproportionately affected by COVID-19. When this pandemic is over, those areas will also need physicians to help treat conditions that have been delayed. Specifically, the *Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act*:

- Recaptures unused visas from previous fiscal years for doctors, nurses, and their families.
- Exempts these visas from country caps.
- Requires employers to attest that immigrants from overseas who receive these visas will not displace an American worker.
- Requires the Department of Homeland Security and State Department to expedite the processing of recaptured visas.
- Limits the filing period for recaptured visas to 90 days following the termination of the President's COVID-19 emergency declaration.

Passage of the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act will provide peace of mind to physicians who are in the United States on J-1 Visas. Under current law, if they become sick and die, their spouses and children are at risk of being deported through no fault of their own. It is important that we protect those who are not only delivering care, but who are at the highest risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus, from suffering unintended consequences.

MSMS respectfully requests your support and expeditious passage of this important legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Bill Huizenga  
United States Representative  
2232 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Huizenga:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Peter Meijer  
United States Representative  
1508 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Meijer:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable John Moolenaar  
United States Representative  
117 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Moolenaar:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Daniel Kildee  
United States Representative  
200 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Kildee:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Fred S. Upton  
United States Representative  
2183 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Upton:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Tim Walberg  
United States Representative  
2266 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Walberg:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Elissa Slotkin  
United States Representative  
1210 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Slotkin:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Pino D. Colone, MD  
President



May 10, 2021

The Honorable Andy Levin  
United States Representative  
312 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Levin:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Lisa McClain  
United States Representative  
218 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McClain:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Haley Stevens  
United States Representative  
1510 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Stevens:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Debbie Dingell  
United States Representative  
116 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Dingell:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Rashida Tlaib  
United States Representative  
1628 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Tlaib:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Brenda Lawrence  
United States Representative  
2463 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Lawrence:

On behalf of the 15,000 members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I urge you to support the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 1024/ H.R. 2255). The passage of this legislation allows for the recapturing of 40,000 unused immigrant visas (15,000 for physicians and 25,000 for nurses) and is vital to the continued delivery of quality care during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It would also allow for more flexibility as to where International Medical Graduates can practice during the current outbreak, which will be vital as continue to fight this virus and new variants.

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Pino D. Colone, MD  
President

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator  
731 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Stabenow:

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Pino D. Colone, MD  
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May 10, 2021

The Honorable Gary Peters  
United States Senator  
724 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Peters:

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- Exempts these visas from country caps.
- Requires employers to attest that immigrants from overseas who receive these visas will not displace an American worker.
- Requires the Department of Homeland Security and State Department to expedite the processing of recaptured visas.
- Limits the filing period for recaptured visas to 90 days following the termination of the President's COVID-19 emergency declaration.

Passage of the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act will provide peace of mind to physicians who are in the United States on J-1 Visas. Under current law, if they become sick and die, their spouses and children are at risk of being deported through no fault of their own. It is important that we protect those who are not only delivering care, but who are at the highest risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus, from suffering unintended consequences.

MSMS respectfully requests your support and expeditious passage of this important legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Pino D. Colone, MD  
President