



COLORADO ACADEMY OF  
FAMILY PHYSICIANS  
**STRONG MEDICINE FOR COLORADO**

The Honorable Senator Michael Bennet  
United States Senate  
Washington D.C. 20510

May 26, 2021

Dear Senator Bennet,

The Colorado Academy of Family Physicians represents over 2,600 physicians, residents, and medical students across the state and advocates for policies that improve the health of Coloradans, enhance patient experience and safety, and advance access to affordable, high quality health care. Our values are focused on achieving equal access to healthcare and equitable health outcomes, while dismantling the structures, systems, and biases that prevent both.

We're writing in support of the Workforce Resilience Act (*S. 1024*), which can help offset the increased demand and stressors on the healthcare system following fourteen months of managing the multiple crises and impact from the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the United States, International Medical Graduates (IMGs) represent 22% of all active family physicians and are more likely to serve patients in low-income, rural, and diverse communities. The care they provide is vital and the CAFP encourages your support of this bill that would help recapture 15,000 unused employment-based physician immigrant visas so that Coloradans can access the care that would be made available.

In addition, IMGs who complete their residency program in the US currently have to return to their home country for two years before applying for a green card or visa. The Conrad 30 program, which is set to expire on September 30, would allow these residents who have been caring for Coloradans to remain and help recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing shortage of primary care providers in the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to show our support on this important initiative, and for all of your efforts in promoting equal access to affordable healthcare and equitable health outcomes.

Sincerely,

Craig Anthony, MD

President, Colorado Academy of Family Physicians  
Family Physician in Thornton