



June 8, 2021

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

On behalf of East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, I am writing today to request your support of the *Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act* (S. 1024/H.R. 2255) which has been reintroduced with bipartisan support in March 2021. The *Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act* seeks to recapture 25,000 unused immigrant visas for foreign-born physicians and 15,000 unused immigrant visas for nurses that Congress had previously authorized and to allocate those visas to healthcare workers to help respond to COVID-19.

As you know, EBNHC serves more than 120,000 patients a year, the majority of whom are medically underserved and vulnerable immigrants in East Boston and the surrounding communities of Chelsea, Revere, Everett, Winthrop, and, most recently, the South End. Amongst our 1,400 health care staff are many foreign-born providers who have been on the front lines taking care of the members of our community. During this year of the public health emergency, we have come to appreciate further the importance of having a stable healthcare workforce and of the critical role that our foreign-born physicians and nurses play in the delivery of culturally competent health care to our patients.

Understanding that post-pandemic recovery requires a stable workforce, we want to help ensure that foreign-born providers around the country are able to continue working with the communities in need. We believe that this bill can help alleviate the shortages of healthcare workers further exacerbated by the pandemic and ensure that our most vulnerable communities have qualified doctors and nurses providing uninterrupted access to healthcare services during this challenging but promising time.

We hope that you consider co-sponsoring or otherwise supporting this vital piece of legislation to help alleviate the shortages of healthcare workers around the country and support our most affected patients in the pandemic recovery.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Ernani J. DeAraujo*

Ernani J. DeAraujo, Esq.
Vice President of Regulatory Affairs and General
Counsel

S. 1024/H.R. 2255 A bill to enhance our Nation's nurse and physician workforce during the COVID-19 crisis by recapturing unused immigrant visas

- [S.1024 sponsored by Senators Durbin, Cornyn, Leahy, Young, Coon, Collins](#)
- [Text of the Bill](#)
- [Link to the legislation](#)