



Statements of Support

Rural Physician Workforce Production Act

“The National Rural Health Association applauds Representative Harshbarger and Representative Schrier for their re-introduction of the Rural Physician Workforce Production Act. This important legislation would provide the first substantive update to rural Medicare’s Graduate Medical Education policies in over two decades and aim to address doctor shortages in rural America. NRHA looks forward to working closely with Congress to address the unique health workforce challenges affecting rural Americans.” —**Alan Morgan, Chief Executive Officer, National Rural Health Association**

“Addressing the shortage of primary care physicians, particularly in rural communities, must be a top priority for lawmakers. That’s why the AAFP is pleased to endorse the Rural Physician Workforce Production Act, which will take concrete action to support rural residency training and improve access to care. This legislation also addresses health inequities by strengthening the physician workforce in communities that desperately need more family physicians and would provide much needed federal support to incentivize residents to train in rural areas. This bill is a critical step toward stemming our national physician workforce shortage and ensuring patients have equitable access to timely and comprehensive care from their trusted family physicians.” —**Jen Brull, MD, FAAFP, President, American Academy of Family Physicians**

“Delivering healthcare to underserved areas, including rural America, has always been a cornerstone of the osteopathic medical community’s mission. It is well understood that residents who train in rural areas are more likely to practice there. This is especially true for osteopathic physicians, with more than 73 percent of DOs staying in the state where they complete their training. AACOM deeply appreciates Representatives Harshbarger and Schrier for championing this critical legislation to strengthen rural residency training and tackle a major driver of rural physician shortages.” —**Robert A. Cain, DO, President and CEO, American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)**



DIANA HARSHBARGER

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“This bipartisan bill is a vital step toward strengthening the healthcare workforce. By addressing long-standing barriers to Graduate Medical Education (GME) for rural hospital training programs and expanding training pathways in rural communities, will help bridge workforce gaps and improve access to high-quality primary care. We look forward to ongoing collaboration with Congress to advance this essential legislation and support the health needs of rural America.” —**Winston Liaw, MD, MPH, Chair, Academic Family Medicine Advocacy Committee, Society of Teachers of Family Medicine**

“The American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) applauds Representatives Harshbarger and Schrier for re-introducing the Rural Physician Workforce Production Act. This bipartisan legislation addresses the geographic maldistribution of physicians in rural areas stemming from the current structure of Medicare Graduate Medical Education (GME). This is critically important given that 20 percent of the U.S. population lives in rural communities, but only about 10 percent of physicians practice in those communities. This legislation is a significant step toward strengthening the rural physician workforce, especially since residents tend to practice where they train. The Rural Physician Workforce Production Act will help ensure that patients across the country — regardless of their geographic location — have access to the highest quality of care.” —**Brian A. Kessler, DO, FACOFP, President of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians**