

January 25, 2019

The Honorable Michael Burgess
United States House of Representatives
2161 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Burgess,

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), thank you for introducing H.R. 103, the *Foreign Medical School Accountability Fairness Act of 2019*. I commend you for your leadership and strong commitment to ensuring uniform standards exist at non-U.S. medical schools receiving Title IV federal financial aid funding, and I offer our support for this important legislation.

AACOM represents the 35 accredited colleges of osteopathic medicine in the United States. These colleges are accredited to deliver instruction at 55 teaching locations in 32 states. Six of the colleges are public and 29 are private institutions. In the current academic year, these colleges are educating more than 30,000 future physicians – 25 percent of all U.S. medical students.

As educators of future physicians, we support policies such as H.R. 103. As you know, this bill would require that all foreign medical schools be held to the same standards and accountability to receive Title IV federal financial aid. Under current law, certain foreign medical schools are exempt from meeting requirements that other foreign medical schools are required to meet in order to receive this federal funding.

Thank you, again, for your steadfast leadership and dedication to working to ensure medical students and school are well served by the Title IV federal financial aid programs. We look forward to working together on this important legislation and other matters of mutual interest.

Respectfully,



Stephen C. Shannon, DO, MPH
President and CEO