

December 17, 2019

The Honorable Dick Durbin
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Durbin:

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), thank you for introducing 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 leads and advocates for the full continuum of osteopathic medical education (OME) to improve the health of the public. Founded in 1898 to support and assist the nation's osteopathic medical schools, AACOM represents all 36 accredited colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs)—educating nearly 31,000 future physicians, 25 percent of all U.S. medical students—at 57 teaching locations in 33 U.S. states, as well as osteopathic graduate medical education professionals and trainees at U.S. medical centers, hospitals, clinics, and health systems.

As educators of future physicians, we support policies such as the *Foreign Medical School Accountability Fairness Act of 2019*. 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,



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