

May 17, 2021

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
U.S. House of Representatives
2308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Maloney:

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), I offer strong support for H.R. 2418, the *Student Loan Forgiveness for Frontline Health Workers Act*. Thank you for your commitment and leadership in re-introducing this important legislation to help alleviate the burden of student loan debt for frontline health care workers responding to the COVID-19 crisis.

AACOM leads and advocates for the full continuum of osteopathic medical education to improve the health of the public. Founded in 1898 to support and assist the nation's osteopathic medical schools, AACOM represents all 37 accredited colleges of osteopathic medicine—educating nearly 31,000 future physicians, 25 percent of all U.S. medical students—at 58 teaching locations in 33 US states, as well as osteopathic graduate medical education professionals and trainees at U.S. medical centers, hospitals, clinics and health systems.

AACOM lauds your recognition of the crucial role that health workers play in delivering vital services and care to communities across the country during this pandemic. Osteopathic physicians and other health care providers contribute to patient care and testing, risking their lives working on the frontlines. As medical educators training the future physician workforce, thank you for your efforts to establish federal and private loan forgiveness to ease the financial burden experienced by our graduates and attract medical professionals to lend their expertise to the COVID-19 response.

We look forward to working with you to advance H.R. 2418. For questions or to request additional information, please contact me at dbergman@aacom.org.

Respectfully,



David Bergman, JD
Vice President, Government Relations