FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS: A GOOD INVESTMENT OR BAD MEDICINE FOR TAXPAYERS?

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HEALTHCARE REFORM IN AMERICA
PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ISSUES

Supply

Demand

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Educating students in off-shore medical schools is expensive (COST), limits the availability of training and residency slots (ACCESS), and lacks transparency in its education standards (QUALITY).
MEDICAL SCHOOLS IN AMERICA

University of Pennsylvania Medical School 1765

Penn Medicine

The American School of Osteopathy 1892

Osteopathy History
FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS

- US Med Schools
- Foreign Med Schools

Legend:
- Orange: FFEL Access
- Red: DO
- Blue: MD
MEDICAL EDUCATION COSTS

Cost of Attendance

Median 4- Yr Cost of Attendance

MD

DO

FMS

$0

$50,000

$100,000

$150,000

$200,000

$250,000

$100,000

$150,000

$200,000

$250,000

$0

$50,000

$100,000

$150,000

$200,000

$250,000
FEDERAL ROLE IN FINANCING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Higher Education Act of 1965

“. . . strengthen the educational resources of our colleges and universities and to provide financial assistance for students in postsecondary and higher education.”

President Lyndon B. Johnson
November 8, 1965
1998-2008: Student Loans at Foreign Medical Schools

- Ross University
- St. George’s University
- American University of the Caribbean

$1.5 Bil

$1.3 Bil (90%)
Money generated by off-shore medical schools is used to purchase clinical rotation slots for 3rd and 4th year medical students. Clinical rotation slots and residency positions are in already limited supply.
Quality

Off-shore medical schools are not accredited by the LCME nor the AOA
FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY AND FAIRNESS ACT OF 2013

Senator Dick Durbin
Accountability

• Maintain standards for quality medical education
• Ensure oversight and judicious use of taxpayer dollars

Fairness

• Eliminate 1992 HEA exemption loophole
• 60% or less U.S. citizen student enrollment
• Maintain 75% USMLE board pass rate
IN A WORLD OF DOLLARS AND CENTS EVERYONE IS A STAKEHOLDER!

Supporters

Limited clinical rotations
Student loan debt
Poor education

Opponents

Decreased enrollment
Reduction in resources
Lack of diversity
THE BOTTOM LINE

Well-qualified practitioners are needed to meet the demands of the ever changing healthcare landscape.

Judicious use of federal dollars in funding medical education is important to taxpayers.
Accountability and Fairness in the use of federal education loans by foreign medical schools . . .

- Saves taxpayers money

- Facilitates the production of quality physicians to meet the healthcare needs of American citizens.
THANK YOU!