

December 14, 2018

The Honorable Kathy Castor
United States House of Representatives
2052 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Castor:

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), I offer support for HR 7233, the *Creating Access to Residency Education (CARE) Act of 2018*. Thank you for your strong commitment in introducing this critical leadership which seeks to help alleviate the nation's physician workforce shortage.

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) represents the 34 accredited colleges of osteopathic medicine in the United States. These colleges are accredited to deliver instruction at 54 teaching locations in 32 states. In the current academic year, these colleges are educating nearly 30,000 future physicians—more than 25 percent of all U.S. medical students.

As educators of future physicians, we support policies such as your legislation, the *CARE Act of 2018*, that works to provide long-term solutions to alleviate the physician workforce shortage. This legislation would support the creation of new graduate medical education programs in those states with a low ratio of medical residents relative to the general population.

On behalf of AACOM, I again offer our support for HR 7233, and I thank you for your leadership on working toward a health care system that will enable future osteopathic physicians to provide the necessary care to the communities and the patients they serve.

Respectfully,



Stephen C. Shannon, DO, MPH
President and CEO