

August 7, 2018

The Honorable Josh Gottheimer
United States House of Representatives
213 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Gottheimer:

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), I offer support for H.R. 6056, the *Advancing Medical Resident Training in Community Hospitals 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 51 teaching locations in 32 states. In the current academic year, these colleges are educating nearly 29,000 future physicians—more than 20 percent of all U.S. medical students.

As educators of future physicians, we support policies such as your introduced legislation, the *Advancing Medical Resident Training in Community Hospitals Act of 2018*, that works to provide long-term solutions to the physician workforce shortage. This legislation would provide a technical fix to a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid rule, so that community hospitals are not penalized for hosting medical resident “rotators” for short durations. Residents who graduated from medical schools would then continue their training in nearby hospitals and ultimately practice in the communities where they train.

On behalf of AACOM, I again offer our support for the *Advancing Medical Resident Training in Community Hospitals Act of 2018*, 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