

April 17, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

The Honorable Tim Kaine
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building 231
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Todd Young
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Building 185
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Wild
United States House of Representatives
Longworth House Office Building 1027
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jen Kiggans
United States House of Representatives
Longworth House Office Building 1037
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Debbie Dingell
United States House of Representatives
Cannon House Office Building 102
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Earl "Buddy" Carter
United States House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building 2432
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Kaine and Young and Representatives Wild, Kiggans, Dingell, and Carter:

On behalf of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP), I write to express support for S.3679/H.R. 7153, the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act*, which would reauthorize the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act* to reduce and prevent suicide, burnout, and mental and behavioral health conditions among health care professionals.

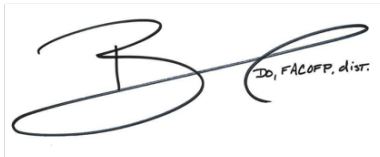
ACOFP is the professional organization representing more than 26,000 practicing osteopathic family physicians, residents, and students throughout the United States who are deeply committed to advancing our nation's health care system by improving health care delivery and outcomes and ensuring that patients have access to high-quality care. We believe that ensuring access to primary care physicians results in patients with better outcomes and a more efficient health care system.

The *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act* would reauthorize grant funding for health care organizations and professional associations to support employee education on strategies to reduce burnout, peer-support programming, and mental and behavioral health treatment. It would also reauthorize grant funding for health profession schools to provide training to health care workers on strategies to prevent suicide, burnout, mental health conditions, and substance use disorders (SUDs). Further, the bill would reauthorize funding to continue a national evidence-based education and awareness campaign to reduce health care worker burnout and expand the campaign beyond its current scope.

ACOFP supports federal programs that address physician burnout and promote physician wellness to establish a culture of wellbeing among the physician community. Specifically, we support additional funding for mental and behavioral health training for health care professionals and grants to promote mental health and resiliency among health care providers.

Thank you for your leadership in advancing policies that promote physician wellness. We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation. Should you need any additional information or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact ACOFP at advocacy@acofp.org or (847) 952-5100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BK', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. To the right of the signature, the text 'DO, FACOFP, dist.' is written in a smaller, plain font.

Brian Kessler, DO, DHA, FACOFP, *dist.*
President, ACOFP