



Albany Medical College

August 27, 2020

Albert Einstein
College of Medicine

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

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senate
520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Columbia University
Vagelos College of
Physicians and Surgeons

CUNY School of Medicine

The Honorable Jack Reed
United States Senate
728 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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

Icahn School of Medicine
at Mount Sinai

Jacobs School of Medicine
and Biomedical Sciences,
the University at Buffalo

Dear Senators Kaine, Cassidy, Reed and Young,

New York Institute of
Technology College of
Osteopathic Medicine

On behalf of the Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY), I would like to thank you for introducing S. 4349, the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act of 2020, and offer our support to ensure passage of this critical legislation. This legislation would authorize a number of initiatives aimed at preventing suicide and burnout in healthcare professionals as well as addressing their mental health needs. We are honored that you have chosen to name this bill for Dr. Lorna Breen, a friend and colleague to so many in New York.

New York Medical College

NYU Long Island School of
Medicine

NYU Robert I. Grossman
School of Medicine

AMSNY is the consortium of the 17 medical schools of New York State, which have been working throughout the pandemic to address the healthcare needs of the citizens of New York, as well as supporting the medical students, physicians and other health professionals during this incredibly stressful time. Clinician well-being is important and difficult to attain during normal times, but during the unprecedented times of this pandemic, the need to ensure that there is support for clinicians now is critical.

Renaissance School of
Medicine at Stony Brook
University

School of Medicine and
Dentistry at the University
of Rochester Medical
Center

While New York's medical schools have implemented and augmented a number of programs to help physicians and students, AMSNY greatly appreciates this legislation which would create programs to address stigma and bias against seeking mental health treatment, as well as reducing burnout and preventing suicide. We greatly appreciate the grants created through the bill which would provide resources to institutions to train health professionals in strategies to reduce their own stress and care for themselves. We emphasize the importance of having these grants available for academic medical institutions so that these strategies can flow down to the students, so the next generation of physicians will be raised in a culture of self-care to hopefully reduce these ill-effects in the long-term. AMSNY also supports the studies included in the bill which would help develop evidence based treatments and prevention strategies.

SUNY Downstate Health
Sciences University

SUNY Upstate
Medical University

Touro College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Weill Cornell
Medicine

Zucker School of Medicine
at Hofstra/Northwell

For the reasons included above, AMSNY supports the passage of S. 4349, the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act of 2020, and we look forward to working with you as this legislation moves forward.

Thank you again for your strong support on these issues. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at jowiederhorn@amsny.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jo Wiederhorn".

Jo Wiederhorn
President & CEO, AMSNY